

BL threat to dismiss 18,500 unless strike is called off

sterday threatened 18,500 with dismissal unless they work by next Wednesday. Sir Michael Edwardes, chairman of the company, into direct contact with the powerful

Transport and General Workers Union, which he accused of taking BL Cars "to the very brink and beyond" without regard for thousands of jobs. There were no safe places in the group, he said.

Some plants might not reopen'

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Industrial
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Michael Edwardes, chairman of the company, into direct contact with the powerful

days before all car production is halted, putting more than 50,000 out of work.

BL is in no shape to stand such heavy losses. Last month Sir Michael revealed that only emergency cutbacks in production necessitating thousands of layoffs had averted a serious cash crisis.

It is undoubtedly "the make or break" nature of the situation facing the company which has encouraged him to make such a potentially dangerous move.

As one of his senior colleagues said: "He had no alternative. He could not stand by and see the company bleed to death, with its factories shut, no cars reaching the dealers, and the work of two and a half years thrown down the drain. He had to make some move, no matter how desperate, to try to avert that."

Sir Michael has wasted little time in taking up the transport union's gauntlet. He returned from a visit to South Africa only two days ago.

The "work or be sacked" threat was contained in a letter which appeared on notice boards at all 36 car plants. It

appeared under the signature of Mr Ray Horrigan, managing director of BL Cars, but clearly carried the full authority of the chairman and the seven-man BL main board, which met at Longbridge yesterday for its monthly meeting.

The statement said: "strikes by some employees are threatening to stop all production in BL Cars. Many thousands of hourly paid employees who wish to continue working normally have already been laid off because of the actions of less than 20 per cent of BL Cars employees."

"We cannot allow the jobs of those of you who are willing to work to be put at risk by

(the Press Association reports).

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'Make or break' for UK missile project

By Peter Hennessy
The Soviet Union is about to dismantle half of its anti-ballistic-missile system in Moscow just as a £1,000 Ministry of Defence project, code-named "Chevaline", is designed to enable British Polaris missiles to penetrate it, is nearing completion.

Western military intelligence analysts are convinced, however, that the Soviet Union is likely to replace all 64 of its anti-ballistic-missile launchers with something equally effective if not better.

The Ministry of Defence in London will not confirm or deny that the Soviet missiles are being dismantled, as the British Government is not a member of the Standing Consultative Commission, the Soviet-American group established to monitor the Anti-ballistic-missile treaty of 1972. It was to the commission that the Russian delegation announced its intention of taking down 32 missile sites last month.

A ministry official said yesterday: "We know that the Soviets are continuing with substantial research and development on anti-ballistic missiles, but we cannot give details of our public predictions. The statement in the Defence White Paper about 'Chevaline' being 'designed to respond to Soviet anti-ballistic-missile capabilities, which we know are being improved', remains the position."

Dr Lawrence Friedman, head of policy studies at the Royal Institute of International Affairs in London and the author of a book on the British Polaris submarine squadron and its likely successor, to be published in the autumn, confirmed yesterday that he knew from his sources that reports of the Soviet Union informing the United States of the dismantling of 32 of its 64 anti-ballistic-missile launchers were true.

He suggested that defence analysts in Washington and London were still uncertain about the exact meaning of the development.

"It is make or break for 'Chevaline'. Either it is a rather cruel farce, in that as soon as this expensive programme comes into service the Russians remove its raison d'être. Or, on the other hand, if this development means the construction of a new and improved Soviet anti-ballistic-missile system, then the expenditure on 'Chevaline' is even more justified, provided one believes it is necessary for the British force to attack Moscow", he said.

Details of "Chevaline" were given by Mr Francis Pym, Secretary of State for Defence, in a Commons debate on nuclear weapons on January 24.

He described it as "a very major and complex development of the missile from end, involving also changes to the fire-control system... it includes advanced penetration aids and the ability to manoeuvre in space".

Moscow denies military threat to Iran

Pravda hastened to deny the American claim that Soviet military forces were being built up along the frontier with Iran. Major-General Shadmehr, the Iranian joint chief of staff, confirmed that there had been a concentration of Soviet troops in the area but he thought there was no danger of an invasion. Iran's leaders are considering postponing the parliamentary elections

Press dispute may spread, union says

Industrial action in the increasingly bitter pay dispute affecting provincial newspapers and the general printing industry could spread to national newspapers, the National Graphical Association, the union at the centre of the dispute, said. It forecast rougher action by the employers

Page 2

Teachers sceptical

The two largest teachers' unions reacted with scepticism to local authority claims that they cannot afford to meet both the recommended Clegg award and the April, 1980, pay demand. The councils have said that while they can meet the Clegg increase, they will resist paying anything like 20 per cent for the teachers' annual pay settlement

Page 2

Japan's 6-hour strike

Japan's railways and buses are functioning normally again after trade union leaders and transport managers reached an agreement and averted a three-day strike. There was a six-hour stoppage affecting the morning rush hour, but most people were prepared for disruption and everything was back to normal by lunchtime

Page 9



The Prince of Wales meeting Mr Robert Mugabe on his arrival in Zimbabwe. Behind are Lord Soames, the Governor, and the new Cabinet.

A united army is priority for Zimbabwe

From Our Correspondent
Salisbury, April 16

Mr Robert Mugabe, Zimbabwe's Prime Minister-designate, said today that the amalgamation of the Rhodesian security forces with the Zanla and Zipra guerrilla armies would be one of the Government's main priorities.

He said that unless the forces were unified, there was always a danger of conflict between them.

Asked how quickly he intended to introduce policy changes, Mr Mugabe said: "Results will be seen in the next few months." However, he gave the impression that he would continue to move with the same degree of caution and moderation which he has shown since winning the election.

Other priorities listed were the resettlement of refugees who had been displaced by the war and the rehabilitation of the country's education and health services.

The arrival of the Prince of Wales

in Salisbury today set the stage for the final transfer of power in Rhodesia. The Prince will represent the Queen at tomorrow's midnight independence ceremony when he will formally hand over the reigns of power to Mr Mugabe.

The Prince, wearing a white naval officer's uniform and the blue sash of the Order of the Garter, arrived at 11.30 am in an RAF VC10. Groups of spectators waved Union Jacks and cheered as he stepped off the aircraft.

The Prince was greeted by Lord Soames, the Governor, the Rev Canaan Banana, the President-elect, and Mr Mugabe.

The arrival ceremony was short but moving. The Prince inspected a guard of honour provided by black and white members of the Rhodesian Air Force, while musical accompaniment was provided by the all-black British South African Police Band. A 21 gun salute was fired.

Both the Prince and Mr Mugabe were in a jocular mood. Mr Mugabe introduced Mr Enos Nkala as the "minister of no-finance". "Is there any money in the bank?", asked Prince Charles. "We are relying on Lord Soames for that", replied Mr Nkala.

Later the Prince drove through the centre of Salisbury

Wage settlements are running at more than 20% and still rising

By David Blake
Economics Editor

Wages are rising at an underlying rate of more than 20 per cent a year and the pace is still accelerating. Government officials at the Department of Employment say no sign of an end to the spiral which is putting increasing pressure on prices and the finances of Britain's companies.

The average earnings index rose by just over 21 per cent in February, but the increase on the same month a year ago fell from 20.1 per cent in January to 18.6 per cent.

This drop was just a statistical freak however. It was caused by unusually high pay packets in February 1979 and low pay figures this year because of the steel strike.

Workers in the private sector show no sign of settling anywhere near the 10 per cent range which would be implied by a reading of the Government's money supply targets, or at the 14 per cent level which has formed the basis of government calculations on public spending.

The round of pay increases is just about keeping pace with inflation over the past year, but in recent months it is pay which has been making the running.

There have thus been substantial increases in real living standards, which have clearly postponed the onset of what is expected to be a severe recession.

In the long run, however, it is likely that the conflict between these large pay rises and the Government's overall policy will lead to dramatic rises in unemployment.

Companies have found it impossible to pass on all the cost increases which they have faced, which means that their liquidity has been increasingly squeezed. This will force them to cut back their activities in the months ahead.

Other ministers are likely to join the Chancellor in emphasising that only a reduction in pay rises will prevent a rise in unemployment. Table, page 21

Figures for the level of settlements up to March put those at around 18 per cent for the private sector and 14 per cent for the public sector.

The private sector is considerably higher than that which the Confederation of British Industry has suggested on the basis of its data bank.

The public sector level for settlements during the current pay round is thought to be 14 per cent, but this generally understates the actual increase which most public sector workers are receiving.

This is because it does not take account of the pay increases which have gone

through during the year as a result of agreements reached under Clegg comparability studies.

The pay bill of central government is expected to rise by 25 per cent in this financial year compared to the financial year just ended, while for the public sector as a whole the increase will be 23 per cent.

Because the Civil Service has been instructed to lose 23 per cent of its staff, the implication would seem to be that Civil Service wages will be more than 27 per cent higher.

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HOME NEWS

Action by printers could spread to national press if employers call a lockout, union leader says

By David Felton

Labour Reporter
Industrial action in the increasingly bitter pay dispute affecting provincial newspapers and the general printing industry could be spread to national newspapers, the union at the centre of the dispute said last night.

The National Graphical Association is expecting employers at an emergency today to take a much tougher stance against its action, including the possibility of what it called "a nationwide lockout".

Mr Joe Wade, general secretary of the NGA, said last night that if there was a lockout the union would respond by taking further action, including the closure of a number of general printing firms. One large group might not reopen, he said. The union refused to name the group.

"It could also lead to an extension of the dispute to Fleet Street. In addition, every provincial daily newspaper would

close for the period of the dispute, though most if not all of them are already paying more than the NGA is claiming", Mr Wade said.

"The only conclusion I can reach from this piece of lunacy is that the employers are determined to teach us a lesson and once and for all to try to destroy the bargaining power of our chapters and branches. They are going to be sadly disillusioned."

The union's campaign of sporadic industrial action, which is now in its fourth week, is over the annual pay claim. The employers' organisations, the Newspaper Society and the British Printing Industries Federation, have offered a minimum weekly pay of £75 and a 37½-hour working week from July 1982, in return for wide-ranging proposals to improve efficiency.

The union is demanding £80 a week and wants a more rapid move to the introduction of a 35-hour week.

An indication of a tougher stance by the employers came earlier this week when Bristol United Press suspended publication of three of its papers until the dispute is over and dismissed 165 NGA members who had been taking action.

The nationwide action mainly involves last-minute walkouts and mandatory chapter meetings being called at crucial times.

Mr Wade said the union was financially well placed to withstand a long dispute. "We already have substantial financial resources. But with 25 per cent of our membership, or 15,000 members, who work under these agreements exempt from industrial action because their employers have conceded our terms, and 40,000 members who work under other agreements paying a 56 a week levy, we shall have more than enough money to continue the fight for as long as the employers have the stomach for it", he said.

The union is demanding £80 a week and wants a more rapid move to the introduction of a 35-hour week.

Time limit on EEC spending 'not long enough'

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

"Temporary and ad hoc" spending in United Kingdom regions designed to reduce Britain's net Community budget deficit would have to last longer than the three to four years tentatively proposed by the commission, Mr Nigel Lawson, Financial Secretary to the Treasury told a Commons committee last night.

He joked that income tax, which introduced had been called "temporary", and the remedy would be needed as long as the EEC common agricultural policy remained unchanged.

Mr Lawson was invited before the Select Committee on European Legislation to explain what was new in the EEC Commission document of which he had made so much in a Commons debate on March 24.

He was characteristically unrepentant. He rejected a suggestion by a Labour MP that he had misled the House, and maintained that "some of the press" had given a false and exaggerated account.

He said he was not surprised that on the basis of the headlines the EEC Commission had reacted the way it did.

The commission suggested there was nothing new in the document he cited, so it and Mr Lawson remain at odds. He maintained it went further and was of "considerable significance" in that if the EEC did have the political will to decide to spend more in Britain then it could be fully used in accordance with the principle and criteria set out by the EEC.

Taken with proposals to cut by £330m the amount Britain pays into the EEC budget the proposals to increase Community spending in Britain could, if the council decided to implement them on a scale acceptable to the United Kingdom, contribute to a satisfactory solution to its budgetary problem", Mr Lawson said in a memorandum.

What that sum was Mr Lawson declined to venture, with the Prime Minister going to the council summit in Luxembourg on April 27-28 to negotiate, in her words, "a substantial reduction" in our £1.20m, projected net contribution this year.

But when one MP suggested the total the Government was looking for was £830m "at least", Mr Lawson did not demur.

Labour members of the committee reminded Mr Lawson that on March 24 he had gone much farther, speaking of "an important step forward towards the solution of our problem".

Continued from page 1
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He said that officers were entitled to use reasonable force and if an individual "resisted arrest and struggled, "more force must necessarily be used".

Unreasonable force would have meant a verdict of unlawful killing, which would be a serious matter.

Mr Lloyd added that no rider could be added to the verdict unless it was, in his opinion, designed to prevent a further

Teachers' unions sceptical about councils' stand on pay issue

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

The two largest teachers' unions were strongly sceptical yesterday about local authorities' claims that they could not afford to meet in full both the recommended Clegg award and the April, 1980, pay claim for teachers.

Mr Terence Casey, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers (NASUWT), said that the Government had put an undisclosed sum into the rate support grant to cover the extra costs involved in the Clegg comparability pay awards.

"I believe that sum was adequate and that Clegg would have been aware of what the Government had allowed and that the commission would have been influenced by that in making its recommendations. Government work like that," he said.

Mr Fred Jarvis, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said that local authorities had known for months about the impending Clegg award for teachers and exaggerated account.

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Mr Lloyd added that no rider could be added to the verdict unless it was, in his opinion, designed to prevent a further

had been putting aside money for that.

The local authorities had proposed going to the Clegg commission last summer because they said that was the only way they could get rate support grant money from the Government, he added.

Local authority leaders told the Government at a meeting on Tuesday that many authorities would have to impose a supplementary rate in October or lay off substantial numbers of staff, including teachers, because the Government had not put enough money into the rate support grant to cover the Clegg and other pay awards.

The Government, in fact, made a fairly accurate assessment of the size of the recommended Clegg award for teachers and did put money in the 1980-81 rate support grant to cover that. But it only allowed 13 per cent to cover the normal annual pay awards and rises in costs due to inflation.

The teachers' 1980 pay claim, payable from April 1, is for an increase in salaries, after the payment of the Clegg award, equal to the annual rise in the index of average earnings.

Figures released by the Department of Employment yesterday show that that index now stands at 18.6 per cent. But that figure is distorted by various complicating factors and the department says that the real underlying rate of increase is just over 20 per cent.

The local authorities appear to be prepared to meet the recommended Clegg award in full, but they will resist strongly paying anything like 20 per cent for the teachers' 1980 claim.

The NASUWT decided yesterday to stop its squabbling with the NUT and to work together with them to fight the management threat on conditions of service, pay, and job.

In a letter to Mr Jarvis, Mr differences divided us on tactics last spring (the NASUWT wanted to go to arbitration, not to the Clegg commission), that must not weaken the firm stand taken by your conference and mine last year.

Mr Jarvis welcomed Mr Casey's olive branch, and said it was essential for the unions to show maximum unity at this time.

Radical s in further education demands

By Our Education Correspondent

Radical changes planned for higher were called for yesterday by the Advisory Council on Education, whose chairman is Dr Hogarth, warden of Smith's College, London.

In its written evidence to the Select Committee on Education, Science and Arts, the council called for the so-called principle on access to education to be interpreted radically different in as to provide opportunity at all levels of post-school education for those who are not able to make the most of their potential.

Records of achievement in voluntary and public adult education and should be taken into account in formulating examination, it said.

It rejected the advanced by some to flexibility and less formal entry, that would lead to a "lo standards".

It was widely recognised that advanced results offer than stability, pre-eminence in education, and that more radical changes could benefit education.

It called on higher institutions to give fundamental reassessments and to structures for meeting the needs of students, making them have jobs and opportunities. More courses would be needed for a period of work experience between higher education and beneficial in maturity and more conduct said. It pointed out that entering universities in war, and the Open University.

From next year the Government proposes to finance university student unions through the normal funding channel, the University Grants Committee.

That would mean that students would have to put in their bids for union finance against the competing demands of the Library or academic departments.

Fresh steel talks hold off strike in Midlands

By Our Labour Staff

The threat of a private sector steel strike in the Midlands was deferred last night when steel union leaders agreed to hold further talks with employers.

The Iron and Steel Trades Confederation (ISTC) had been pressed by local union delegations to call an official strike of 4,000 members covered by Midlands Wages Board negotiations after rejection of a 17 per cent pay and fringe benefits offer. But yesterday the union's executive decided to take part in fresh talks, attended by Mr William Sis, the ISTC general secretary, in an attempt to improve the offer.

Mr Sis further reminded the executive yesterday that under the 104-year-old Midlands Wages Board procedure there was machinery for independent arbitration, which had not yet been used, and that official action might be precipitate.

The outcome of the Midlands negotiations is anxiously awaited by those taking part in other talks covering the rest of the 15,000 ISTC members in the private sector.

The ISTC executive also asked members at one of the Midlands companies, Ductile, who have already walked out, to return to work pending the result of tomorrow's talks.

In its first meeting since the

TUC may urge no rise in strike pay

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

The TUC is likely to urge unions not to increase dispute pay in response to the Government's plan to deduct the first £12 from social security benefits for strikers' families.

Union leaders are seeking a meeting with Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, and Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, to express their objections to the plan.

The TUC's influential employment policy and organization committee yesterday decided that guidelines should be drawn up aimed at restraining unions from increasing strike pay.

The committee confirmed earlier decisions not to engage in further detailed discussions with Mr Prior on the Employment Bill and it passed for forwarding to the Government and the Opposition its critique of the amendment intended to curb secondary industrial action.

Miners' appeal: South Wales miners have asked Mr Joseph Gormley, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, to intervene at the Port Talbot steelworks, Tim Jones writes from Cardiff.

Mr Donald Hayward, chief administrative officer for the area, said they were "staggered" when they learnt of the plan, which comes into effect on May 2. ESC has decided to use only imported coal at Port Talbot and only Welsh coal at Llanwern.

Minister hates us, students say

By Lucy Hodges
Blackpool

Students had harsh words to say about Mr Rhodes Boyson, Under-Secretary of State for Education and minister responsible for higher education, at their annual conference in Blackpool yesterday.

During a heated debate on the Government's proposals for student union finance, left-wing delegates accused him of wanting to smash student unions.

The National Union of Students' conference, later passed by a majority of 3-1 a motion which said: "Conference believes that: (1) Rhodes Boyson hates students; (2) That, in the words of John Cooper Clark 'If work was any good, the rich'd do it'."

To much laughter and applause, Mr Denny Adam,

from Hatfield Polytechnic, said that was not a joke motion. He was supported by another speaker, who said: "Rhodes Boyson does not hate students, he detests students". A majority of the executive voted against the proposition.

Mr Trevor Phillips, the outgoing president, said later: "Everything that Mr Boyson has done so far in government would lead one to believe that he wants to put the boot into students."

The Conservative Party had better think again about its attitude to young people and students," said one student.

On the question of student union finance, members voted in favour of "national mass mobilisation", including disruptive action, if the Government

did not modify its plans for reform.

Mr Boyson announced last December that he wanted to change the system of student union financing. University unions are funded through an individual fee for each student which is paid by local authorities. Local councils have no say in fixing the sum. That is decided by negotiation between university authorities and student unions.

From next year the Government proposes to finance university student unions through the normal funding channel, the University Grants Committee.

That would mean that students would have to put in their bids for union finance against the public sector.

The coroner also expressed condolences to the relatives of Mr Kelly. He said: "I have been aware from the time of his death that the loss of James Kelly has been a matter of deep grief and distress to the family and their friends".

Mr Thomas Banks, chairman of the action committee, said after the hearing that he did not believe the inquest had fully explored all the facts. There was "no way" in which a man in Mr Kelly's condition could have put up a struggle against police officers.

The coroner also expressed condolences to the relatives of Mr Kelly. He said: "I have been aware from the time of his death that the loss of James Kelly has been a matter of deep grief and distress to the family and their friends".

Mr Banks said that Mr Wil-

iam Whitelaw, the Home Sec-

retary, had promised that all

the evidence available should be

made public at the inquest but that had not happened. Statements by officers had not been produced, he said.

He continued: "When we started this campaign our aim was a public inquiry. I have always said I had no faith in the inquest had in its view emerged to justify the inquest which would be a serious matter.

He would be consulting solicitors on the question of taking civil proceedings against the officers involved. Every channel would be explored, and if necessary, the committee would take the case to the European Court of Human Rights.

Mr Banks also disclosed that the unexpected length of the inquest has cost the committee between £12,000 and £14,000 in legal fees: compared with original estimates of between £8,000 and £10,000. The committee had raised £3,500 towards fees but would have to go "cap in hand" to the public for the extra funds.

The verdict yesterday was returned after a hearing in which about 50 witnesses were subjected to what Mr Lloyd described as "searching and exhaustive" questioning.

It began with the disclosure by counsel for the Merseyside police that Mr Kelly had about 50 previous convictions, most of

them minor, but including two

for assaulting the police, and

had served several short prison

sentences.

The last of the witnesses, Mr

David Gerty, an assistant chief

constable of the West Midlands

police, was taken back to the

station where he was dropped off

HOME NEWS

Cut staffs to avoid new rate increases, minister tells councils

By Christopher Warman
Local Government
Correspondent

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, yesterday argued that a tighter recruitment policy by local authorities would enable them to avoid further rate increases or staff redundancies.

In an interview on the BBC radio programme, *Today*, Mr Heseltine rejected the warning delivered by Sir Godfrey Taylor, chairman of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, that supplementary rate demands and large-scale reduction in jobs might be necessary because local authorities were running out of money.

Mr Heseltine said: "They could do what central government has been doing, that is, to exercise a very tight control on the number of people each authority recruits."

He had asked local authorities to do that, but there had not been anything like a sufficient response.

The number of people employed by local councils was running at an almost record level. "I do not believe that there is no room for economy," he said.

Manpower figures published last month showed that at December, 1979, local government in England and Wales employed 1,724,768 full-time and 936,536 part-time workers, an overall reduction since December, 1978, of 0.3 per cent.

Mr Heseltine has consistently

urged local authorities to make savings by cutting recruitment. He believes that if local government fill three out of every four vacancies the necessary savings can be made.

At Tuesday's meeting of the consultative council on local government finance, Mr Heseltine emphasized to local leaders what he had said when announcing the rate support grant last November. He had included a realistic amount to cover the cost of comparability payments to teachers and other staff, and concluded: "There will be no more cash."

He said then: "If the figures look like being exceeded, the additional costs will have to be found by the rate-payers or by a lower level of services, or a lower level of people employed in local government."

It was made clear on Tuesday that the situation remained the same.

After the meeting Sir Godfrey said local government was facing an "extremely serious financial crisis".

The Association of Metropolitan Authorities stated yesterday that ratepayers in some areas could face further rate rises in the autumn, while local services, already severely reduced in line with government policy, might be reduced even more.

The 13 per cent allowed by Mr Heseltine in the rate support grant to cover inflation was "nowhere near enough", a spokesman said.

Olympics without US 'second-rate affair'

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

British athletes choosing to take part in the Olympic Games in Moscow would find that they were competing in a tawdry event against second-rate competition, Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, told the Commons yesterday.

That position was becoming increasingly clear as the tide of boycott began to flow strongly in many sports. Mr Hurd told MPs: "About thirty governments were in favour of boycotting the games and the number was increasing all the time."

Warmly welcoming the decision by British yachtsmen not to take part in the Olympics, Mr Hurd pointed out that United States swimmers won 13 gold medals at the last games and that a swimming competition without American participation was bound to be second-rate.

Mr John Farr, Conservative MP for Harborough, urged the Government to take a more resolute attitude towards those athletes who still wished to go to Moscow. They should be reminded, he said, that they could be distinguishing themselves by being the most the only representatives from any free country in the world to compete in the Olympics.

From the Labour front bench Mr Edward Rowlands said he felt that attempts by members of the Government to brand individual sportsmen as "dishonourable" or "disloyal" were disgraceful and disgusting.

Mr Hurd reported that the Government had made clear it was a matter of choice in a free country whether people went to the Olympics. But the

Government had made clear and would continue to make clear its judgment of where British interest lay.

The Government believed it was strongly against those interests for British athletes to participate in Moscow.

German regret: Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, told German Olympic sportsmen yesterday that conditions were still not right for them to join the Moscow games (Our Bonn Correspondent writes).

The Government would decide on a formal recommendation to the National Olympic Committee on Wednesday, and then it would be up to them to act on it, he said.

At a reception for two West German winter Olympic team members of the National Olympic Committee, the Chancellor explained that the Government had put the onus for German participation on the Soviet Union to create the right conditions by withdrawing its troops from Afghanistan.

"Today I have to state, to my deepest regret, that those conditions have still not been created," he said. He asked potential members of the West German teams to consider solidarity with American sportsmen.

Herr Willy Daume, president of the Olympic committee, said the Government's recommendation would weigh heavily when the issue was debated on May 15.

Between 60 and 100 leading West German sportsmen are expected to take part in a demonstration against an Olympic boycott in Dortmund next Monday. Public opinion, according to a recent poll, is 87 per cent in favour of a boycott.

Scree fall
'danger' to
Wast Water

From Our Correspondent
Workington

The stability of the famous Wasdale Scree if British Nuclear Fuels are allowed to abstract more water from Wast Water has been questioned at the two lakes inquiry, at Whitehaven now in its twelfth week.

The scree are a steep slope of loose rock which rises almost sheer for 1,200ft from the edge of England's deepest lake.

The question of their stability was raised by Mr Ian Bonner, of the Nature Conservancy Council. Although he did not name them, he said that council geologists said it was extremely difficult to assess the impact, but they thought a rise in the lake level of up to a metre could affect stability by removing debris, leading to increased slope angles.

Mr Lionel Read, QC, for BNF, told the inquiry that the Geological Society of London had lodged a holding objection against the proposals so that they could consider the possible effect on the scree. But that objection had been withdrawn, a clear indication, Mr Read said, that they were happy about the stability of the slope.

BNF are seeking more water to supply their expanding nuclear plant at Windscale, in west Cumbria.

Thatcher call for award to cartoonists

By Kenneth Gosling

The Prime Minister yesterday gave a warning against the substitution of pressure group tactics and industrial "muscle" for individual skill and merit. It was her most difficult message to get across she said.

"Your standard of living and your future depend on your own things, your own skill and your own merit, and if you try to substitute pressure group tactics against the Government or industrial muscle, you would soon cease to have the society you would like to live in."

Mrs Margaret Thatcher was

presenting in London what she called the newspaper industry's "battle honours", the British Press Awards. Her speech ranged widely over home and foreign affairs.

She pleaded for freedom from restrictive practices, an issue with which the newspaper industry was familiar and made a reference to the Employment Bill, which was just coming through the Commons. It would change the law, and the law was important.

"But the task in the coming year is to get the greater prosperity which might even lead to greater circulation." Investment had to be put to use so that we could look forward to greater wealth in the future.

On foreign affairs, Mrs Thatcher said it would be a tragedy if Afghanistan became "just another nine-day wonder" and people accepted the occupation by Soviet troops to the extent of not worrying too much what was going to be next.

She also related the tragedy of world events to the way the British people reacted to them. This was a time of law and

attraction for overseas customers. The ministry officials said there had been a big increase in the cost of the lightweight torpedoes, which would be used long ago, scales during which the substances affected the environment. One was DDT, the effects of which were not taken seriously until 15 years after the chemical was first widely used, the other polychlorinated biphenyls, first used in the 1940s. The effects on plant and animal life were seen in the mid-1960s and prompt action was taken to prevent their use.

Mr Read said: "Man in his environment is now saddled with a fair accomplishment. The wastes have been released. They are lurking to be sprung on unsuspecting future generations. We have a suspicion that some of them are there but we do not quite know what to look for."

The MPs were told later that the naval balance was still weighted in Nato's favour, despite the continuing build-up of the Soviet fleet. The Warsaw Pact had 3,260 vessels and Nato 11,300 vessels.

The first of the 2,400-ton class designed to replace the Oberon submarines would probably be built at Vickers, starting in about two years. But Cammell Laird and Scott Lithgow would be able to construct some of the other nine submarines in the class.

No foreign orders had been received, but there was hope of obtaining some, particularly in view of Nato's interest.

At a public session which was devoted to defence procurement, the MPs were told that a decision on whether to order a new rank for the British Army, the Challenger, was not expected until the late summer or the autumn.

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Mr Read said that because of many of the adverse effects caused by chemicals in the environment it was necessary to derive some means of predicting the likely effects of a planned action and allowing some measure of planned control either to curb or eliminate the hazard.

He said risk assessment required three main evaluations to be conducted: hazard identification, risk estimation and social evaluation. That meant the benefits to man of the system producing the risk, the cost-benefit of the risk system, and a comparison of the risk against other natural risks such as earthquakes and floods.

Mr Read pointed out that until the two oil crises no western industrial country had the workings of those who said we were too reliant on oil for energy sources. He said: "There has not yet been a single pollution incident. We should not, however, be too complacent. These things have happened in the past.

Mr Read said yesterday that he was to be towed into Newlyn early yesterday by the Penlee lifeboat after Mr Vass reported more engine trouble off Penzance.

Mr Trevor Thorley, the Land's End coastguard officer, said: "None of the incidents he has been involved in has been particularly serious and an experienced sailor would not have found it necessary to call us out on all those occasions."

One of my colleagues has gone to interview him and find out what is wrong and to give him some sound advice."

Captain Eric Kemp, the St Ives lifeboat secretary, said: "What this man has cost us is a great deal of time and effort. He has been unable to get his reported position.

Mr Vass, who is making for the Mediterranean, had to be guided along the coast with the help of two sets of coastguards in a six-hour operation.

He was towed the final mile and a half into St Ives by a fishing boat.

Next, coastguards answered another "emergency" when the yacht was reported to be keeling over, but they discovered it was safely attached to its moorings at St Ives.

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Lakers of
rug may
E NEWS

Performers try to split it from wrong young offenders

Correspondent
of the treatment of
offenders so that the
differences more
between right and
wrong distinct the
between criminal pro-
ceedings and care proceedings
discussed by chief pro-
fessionals and the Home
Office.

Mr Leon Brittan,
of State of the Home
Office, said the Government
should restrict the
executive in dealing
with offenders in
giving power back to

parents together with
a change in the
underlying penal
idea that offenders
"treated" to help
reform from the
time has lost favour
of experience. It
fore that juvenile
will in future be
mentally from those
care at the hands
of the authority.

for the Confer-
of Probation Offi-
cials yesterday: "There is
and mounting
with the opera-
bilingual and Young
1969.

tions of this Act,
criminal behaviour
would be dealt
with proceedings,
commanded enough
and have never
been implemented."

Newspaper's wrong use of tetter condemned

proper for a news-
represent a reader's
interview without
the Press Council
today.

is a complaint by
ching, governor of
Prison, that having
d his letter to the
ed for adjudication,
eleged used part
interview without
im; and that three
aps added to the
designed to dis-
when, as a civil
was unable to
self publicly.

Telegraph reported
released from Win-
sence for pub-
governors said he
in the prison hos-
pitals and psy-
s and then was put
th rapists and child
abuse. The governor
gut be attacked by
ople and com-
was locked up
a day.

sent the editor
publication saying
had never com-
the governor on the
allegations.

ister a report by
Synon used some of
r's points in quota-
introducing them:

Mr Liesching
he report recalled

Telegraph is upheld.

reporter's
letter

hitlaw is
olice file
stol riot

Tender

report on the riot
ago in the St Paul's
island was forwarded
Mr William White-
tome Secretary, by
Weigh, Chief Con-
trol and Somerset

telaw asked for a
the incident in
aid on a cafe in
drink led to violence
eats and the with
the police in the area.

ed Somerset police
comment on the con-
be report yesterday,
confirm that it had
to London. In the
of the riot in the area;
high has drawn pub-
for his decision to
it's time he is due to
the incidents to his
ce authority, which
him to appear at a
meeting. The riot
to damage to shops
ings, has also led to
an inquiry into con-
the St Paul's area,
occupied largely by
the events that
violence.

Man for trial on Welsh holiday home fire charge

David Hugh Davies, who is
accused of setting fire to a
holiday home in North Wales,
was alleged at Porthmadog
Magistrates' Court, Gwynedd,
yesterday to have said that he
had drunk several pints of ale
and had mentioned his intention
of starting a house fire to several
friends and the local
policeman.

Mr Davies, of Camden Road,
Bridgwater, Somerset, was com-
mitted in custody for trial at
Caernarfon Crown Court on a
charge of arson, causing
criminal damage. Mr Davies,
aged 22, a clock repairer, was
alleged to have set fire to a
holiday home in Beddgelert, in
Snowdonia, causing consider-
able damage.

Mr Robert Price, for the
defence, asked that reporting
restrictions be lifted as he
wanted to make clear that Mr
Davies's actions were in no way
politically motivated.

In an alleged statement, Mr
Davies, whose family lives in
North Wales, said he had heard
of the house fires in Wales on
the radio. He broke into the
cottage through a window and
set fire to a settee, other pieces
of furniture, clothing, curtains
and bedsheet. He gave him-
self up the next morning.

Actor deliberately set to shop, judge rules

Lord Justice Watkins said he
could not accept that the com-
pany's business had been in
the profitable state claimed by
Mr Stuart. He was not satisfied
that Mr Stuart had been
completely truthful in the
witness box as to his activities
on the day of the fire, which
broke out shortly after the
shop closed for the half day.

A charge of arson, the judge
added, was normally decided at
a criminal trial by a jury, who
had to be satisfied beyond
reasonable doubt before they
could convict. In the present
case the police had decided
against taking proceedings and
he had to try the case on the
balance of probabilities. He
said the company's claim was
fraudulent and false.



A bus embedded in a house in Rainhill, Liverpool, yesterday after leaving one woman dead and four people injured.

One dead, 4 hurt as bus leaves trail of wreckage

An elderly woman was killed
and four people were injured
yesterday when a double-decker
bus left a half-mile trail of
wreckage on the A57 road at
Rainhill, near Liverpool. It
struck a bus queue and seven
vehicles before hitting the front
of a semi-detached house, where
it became embedded.

Five policemen were needed
to drag the driver from the bus,
and to hold him down before he
was taken by ambulance to
hospital.

Keiran McCabe, aged 17, of
Palmwood Avenue, Rainhill,
said that the driver was hanging
out of the cab screaming:
"I am God. I am Bruce Lee.
Do you believe me? I am in
paradise!"

Jonathan Davey, aged 16, who
lives near the house where the
bus came to rest, said: "A
policeman tried to coax the
driver out of his compartment,
but he was shouting and flailing
his arms. He was shouting:
'We are all dead. Don't you
see? I know what it is like.
I have died before'."

The series of crashes began
at about 9.10 am when the bus,
belonging to the Crossville Bus
Company, of Chester, had turned
round after a 12-mile trip from
Liverpool city centre.

The bus then veered on to a
pavement and a woman pedes-
trian had to jump aside. It
smashed into the front of a
semi-detached house, crushing
an estate car in the drive on
its side. A few yards farther
on it went into the bus

queue, then into an estate car.
On the way the bus picked
up what it believed to have
been a stationary car, and
shunted it broadside for 300
yards at nearly 30 mph, before
it ploughed into an oncoming
van and a Mini car.

The dead woman and two of
the injured were at the bus
stop, where the bus demolished
a wooden shelter. Ten minutes
earlier dozens of children had
been at the stop.

The dead woman and two of
the injured were at the bus
stop, where the bus demolished
a wooden shelter. Ten minutes
earlier dozens of children had
been at the stop.

Merseyside police said four
people were taken to hospital,
where two were said to be in
a serious condition.

Edward Brown, aged 33, of
Wavertree, Liverpool, had been
charged with causing grievous
bodily harm but had been found
 unfit to appear in court yesterday.

Doctors had certified him
under the Mental Health Act
and he had been detained in an
approved hospital, police said.

Labour adopts 'Tory vandals' poll slogan

By Christopher Warman
Local Government
Correspondent

Whitehall's policies on local
government were resulting in
damage to, and even the destruc-
tion of, essential services.

Mr Roy Hattersley, shadow En-
vironment Secretary, said yes-
terday.

Launching the Labour Party's
campaign for district council
elections in England and Scotland
on May 1, Mr Hattersley said Labour
offered the British people an "opportunity to
demonstrate their opposition to
all that Mrs Thatcher stands for,
and an opportunity to reject
Conservative policy for local
councils.

"That policy can be summed
up in four words: pay more,
get less."

With a national slogan of
"Stop the Tory vandals—vote
Labour", the party is confident of
gaining hundreds of seats
and regaining control of more
than 30 authorities.

Mr Hattersley said the mes-
sage was finally getting across
to people that cutting public ex-
penditure was not the answer
to Britain's difficulties. While
people would in general say
they did not want to see higher
spending, the fact was that they

did not want worse schools,
poorer housing, higher rates,
fewer amenities for the elderly,
uncut parks or unmaintained
roads.

He believed that people were
also now realizing that the
reason for rate increases was
not local authority waste and
extravagance, but the result of
the policies put forward by Mrs
Thatcher and Mr Michael Hes-
eltine, Secretary of State for the
Environment.

"Rates are increasing be-
cause central government is not
providing adequate funds for
local services, and local govern-
ment has now been put in an
intolerable position by the Gov-
ernment as a result of the Clegg
award to teachers."

Mr Hattersley rejected the
Conservatives' claim that the
party was winning support on
the council estates because of
the policy of selling council
houses. Tenants realized that
buying their homes was not as
easy or as cheap as the Govern-
ment made out.

Another matter that would
have an "electric" effect on
council tenants was the fact
that the Government intended
to allow housing authorities to
make a profit from their
tenants.

20 still held in drug inquiry

By Our Crime Reporter

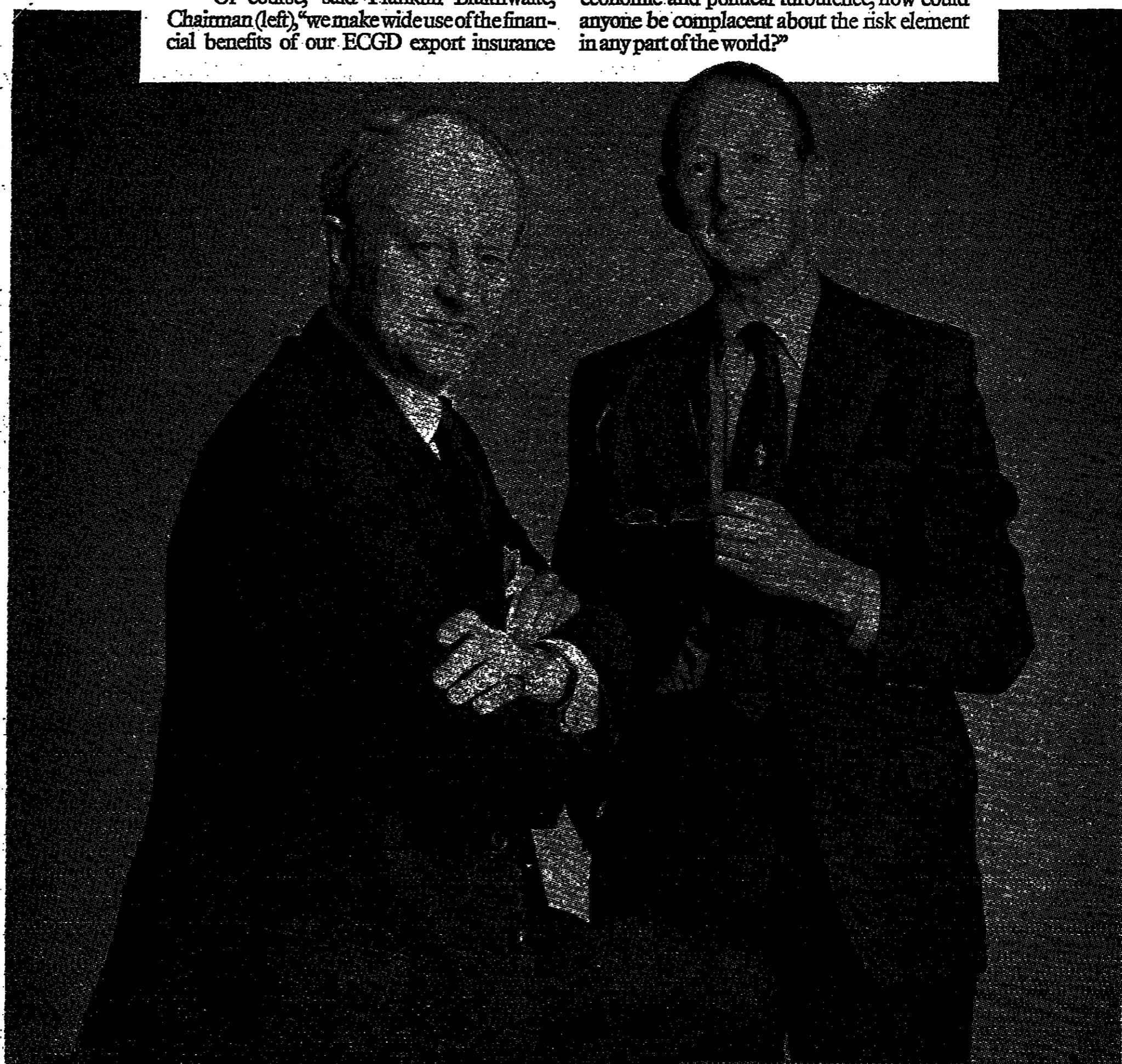
Customs and police officers
yesterday were still question-
ing 20 people arrested after
the seizure of cannabis resin

estimated to be worth £1.5m
being unloaded from a yacht in
a secluded North Wales bay on
Tuesday.

Six people were arrested at
the time of the seizure and
others were picked up in raids
later. It is thought that further
arrests may be made as part
of the investigation.

polices—especially extended credit terms. But
apart from that, with export sales of over £35
million last year in 100 countries, I don't think
I could sleep at nights without export insurance
protection which is good value for the premiums
we pay."

"During the 1970s" added Managing
Director John Peake, "ECGD paid us promptly
claims of over £600,000 in markets where we
thought we were safe. But with the current
economic and political turbulence, how could
anyone be complacent about the risk element
in any part of the world?"



ECGD insures from date of contract or despatch of goods. Cover is available for contracts in sterling or other approved currencies for: Continuous sales worldwide of raw and processed materials, consumer goods and production-line engineering goods. Sales to and by overseas subsidiaries of UK firms Sales through UK confirming houses and by UK merchants Single large sales of capital equipment, ships and aircraft Construction works contracts Services. ECGD also makes available: Guarantees to banks providing export finance, often at favourable rates of interest, including project loans and lines of credit to overseas borrowers Guarantees for performance bonds Consortium contingency insurance Cost escalation cover Tender to contract cover Cover for investments overseas For full details call at your local ECGD Office.

To make an appointment or for information contact the Information Officer, Export Credit Guarantee Department—quoting reference 'IZ'—at Glasgow, Belfast, Leeds, Manchester, Birmingham, Cambridge, Bristol, London West End, Croydon or Tottenham offices; or Joan Swales, Information Section, ECGD, Aldermanbury House, London EC2P 2EL. (Tel: 01-605 5559. Fax: 01-580 5559).

ECGD
INSURANCE FOR BRITISH EXPORTERS

PARLIAMENT, April 16, 1980

Tide flowing strongly towards Games boycott

House of Commons
The latest information available suggested that about 30 governments, favoured boycotting the Olympic Games in Moscow or had expressed serious reservations about their athletes taking part. Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said: "The number was increasing all the time."

Mr Philip Whitehead (Derby, North, Lab) had asked how many countries were in agreement with the British Government's proposals for a boycott.

Many of us (he said) who were deeply concerned about the holding of the Moscow Olympics on human rights grounds long before the invasion of Afghanistan or the American presidential election, feel that the current slogging match between the Government and the British Olympic Association will leave us with the worst of all worlds in this country, exposing deep divisions where there should be unity.

Would he discuss with the authorities who have voted to go, as is their right, if they so wish, some form of unified protest in Moscow during the holding of the Games?

Mr Hurd: No. That ignores the fact that the Soviet authorities control the television output from the Games.

There is no slogging match. It is

increasingly clear that as the tide of boycott begins to flow strongly in many sports this is going to be a tawdry event with second-rate competition.

Mr John Biggs-Davison (Epping Forest, C) — What other countries did not, and that he should commit suicide rather than be publicly assassinated because he will not understand that he has a position as a British person and not merely as a representative of sport?

Mr Hurd: I would rather not be drawn into further comment on him. We warmly welcome, for example, the latest decision by British yachsmen not to take part.

Mr George Purdie (South Ayrshire, Lab) — Why compensation is to accept the Moscow invitation.

We will do what we can to help them in that situation, but believe it is strongly against British interests for British athletes to participate.

Mr Roy Hughes (Newport, Lab) — The Government should give up its attempt to blackmail our sportsmen and sports administrators. Particularly reprehensible was the attempted character assassination of Sir Denis Foulkes (Labour cheers) — a man of the highest possible integrity, who has served sports admirably over so many years.

Mr Hurd: His integrity is in no way in question. We disagree with his judgment about British interests in this matter.

Mr Selwyn Gunnier (Eve, C) — Britain should be leading and not

merely counting up how many other countries would do this. Without impugning the personal integrity of Sir Denis Foulkes, it is not true that he should commit suicide rather than be publicly assassinated because he will not understand that he has a position as a British person and not merely as a representative of sport?

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We will do what we can to help them in that situation, but believe it is strongly against British interests for British athletes to participate.

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Sir William Barlow's departure regretted: differences denied

The exact reasons for Sir William Barlow's resignation as Chairman of the Post Office were a matter for him. Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, said:

There has been no disagreement between Sir Keith and Sir William Barlow, who resigned as Mr Silkin describes. The exact reason for Sir William Barlow's resignation, which I very much regret, are for him and not for me.

Of course it is true, that cash limits — which were all set introduced by the Labour government to impose a discipline, particularly on nationalised industries.

Chairmen of these nationalised industries which are successful

are leaving over in 1980.

The Post Office is being used as an example of what is happening.

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EUROPE

Sor Hans Küng lists the issues that he wants the church to debate



Dr Küng: A pledge to continue the fight.

ingen theologian, Dr Küng, has made comments on the solution to the conflict between the official Church: a Catholic theologian I will fight for a Christianity re-oriented towards Jesus, for ecumenism and for the Catholic Church, to all I will be a priest, scholar, issue to work for the ecclesiastical "principles" that have been lost, integrity and sternity from the would like to express to all those who I am and who will be in the future.

Dr Küng, a professor for theology and director of Ecumenical studies, will continue in the University of Regensburg, and to due to the imminent departure of several well-known bishops, and to report on the part of my colleagues in the I am nevertheless in 20 years in the Catholic Theology department until recovery of the professorship of Ecumenics. He is connected with the direct research of the university very grateful to my I am particularly to its providing me with a form of research in a broader university

s, however, that I am right to give in the Department of Ecclesiastical Commissions and to my appointments. The is that I will be a

icient grounds for the admiring action requested from the state. I am not concerned in my proper legal proceedings, and a constructive solution to the question, which was not invented by me. On the contrary, what they in fact demanded was that I disavow certain critical inquiries and totally abandon the ecclesiastical system. I was not able to reconcile such a thing with Christian freedom of conscience, nor with scholarly integrity, to which I have always held myself as a Catholic theologian.

My case demonstrates with all requiring documents that a fundamental classification is needed to decide whether after this direct human intervention, which was not covered by the Concordat, the constitutional guarantee of freedom of research and teaching in Catholic theology faculties is even still ensured. My case is not an isolated case; it has raised fundamental questions concerning the interpretation prevailing at present of the Concordat with Hitler. All of this raises the question whether a balance of rights and duties on the part of both partners in the Concordat with reference to the Catholic theology faculties is guaranteed when the state has to bear all of the burdens of such ecclesiastical measures.

There has been much tendentious and incorrect reporting on the internal ecclesiastical proceedings in my way substituted. In my view, the government of Baden-Württemberg is still under obligation to give whether the ecclesiastical complaint against me is even suf-

(Munich) and which will show that the efforts of the University of Regensburg, the appeals of numerous academics and church groups and organizations, and finally also my own attempts to come to an agreement failed because of the intransigence of some representatives of the German episcopate. At the same time, the documentation will elucidate the background of the responsibility for and the personal responsibility of Küng, case, which is in reality a "church hierarchy case".

8.

Therefore, the inner-university solution notwithstanding, the fundamental questions still stand and the debates are not going to cease: the question of infallibility, which has still not been answered by Rome, and the question of the question of the right to confess in the church and in the classroom remains. The question of ecumenical understanding he reached the Churches and of mutual recognition of the sacraments of the Eucharist remains. Also remaining is the question of how the ranks of reform, which are burdening innumerable people, can finally be solved, that range from blind cultural, mixed, marriage, divorce and sexual taboos to the ordination of women, forced celibacy and the catastrophic lack of priests resulting from both of these. Above all, this raises the question whether a balance of rights and duties on the part of both partners in the Concordat with reference to the Catholic theology faculties is guaranteed when the state has to bear all of the burdens of such ecclesiastical measures.

C. Hans Küng 1980

Poniatowski threatens to sue Communists and Socialists

By Hargrove

16 Poniatowski vigorously today to oppose to have him im- onnexion with the

ned to sue the Socialist parties demand 5m francs damages from each signed the resolu- his impeachment National Assembly tomorrow that his before the High

owski, who was interior at the assassination of de Broglie, said: quite scandalous able for the follow base politi- mounted all of a Opposition with- the shadow of the charge".

would go to fin- idential campaign date of his choice. National Assembly yes- sessed a sort of the "night of lives". After the Socialists, the lamentary group

found it impossible to resist the temptation to plant one of their own in underhand fashion between the broad shoulder of M Poniatowski, confidant of President Giscard d'Estaing, who has been one of their pet hates for years.

Their support for the opposition's insistence that all the obscurities and contradictions of the Broglie affair should be cleared up, might be presented as a blow for clarity and justice. But by striking at the long-time friend of M Giscard d'Estaing, they were declaring open war on the President himself. This was M Poniatowski's own verdict on the Gaullist manoeuvre.

Relations between the Gaullists and their Giscardian allies in the government majority have sunk again to a low ebb. The satirical weekly, *Le Canard Enchaîné*, which two weeks ago set off the political bomb of what has become the Poniatowski affair, added fuel to the fire today by publishing an alleged confidential note from M Alain Peyrefitte, the Gaullist Minister of Justice, to President Giscard d'Estaing, on suitable tactics to undermine the position of M Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist leader.

Kagan believes he is of political revenge

By Osman

16 an, who is under investigation, sent word by lawyers today that was the victim of charges because his success and his with Sir Harold he thinks, this is a political revenge", he

16, who was arrested on April 8, is resisting to Britain on misappropriating funds due to the Kagan. Textiles flying account. He was in custody until yesterday when he day in the Chambre of the Court of

ers also said that he in Paris at least a before his arrest, their views about from France. He said that two days as taken by French an international friend had tact with someone in the British Government on his behalf and was given an official guarantee that he would not be arrested in France for at least two months, but two days later he was detained.

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Bonn leader invited to visit Moscow

By Patricia Clough

Bonn, April 16 President Brezhnev has asked Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, to visit Moscow in the early summer, it was disclosed today.

The Chancellor has not made up his mind and his decision will depend, among other things, upon the general state of East-West relations, Dr Armin Grunewald, a government spokesman, said.

Mr Brezhnev formally invited the Chancellor to go to Moscow when he visited Bonn in 1976 and the trip was generally expected to take place in the first two months of this year. Then the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan, East-West relations froze.

After an exchange of letters between the two leaders in February and March West Government circles said that a visit by the Chancellor to Moscow would have little sense unless Moscow was prepared to do something to restore the balance of power between East and West.

At the weekend, a few days after receiving the proposed date from Mr Vladimir Semyonov, the Soviet Ambassador in Bonn, the Chancellor put forward a suggestion aimed at getting negotiations going about reducing and balancing nuclear arsenals in Europe. Both sides, he said, must refrain from deploying any more of these weapons for a certain number of years while negotiations were held.

He has been a successful businessman and a friend of Sir Harold Wilson, the former Prime Minister. He thinks that this is a kind of political revenge which is being taken against him.

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Germans play in support of BBC musicians

Recklinghausen, April 16—

Musicians of the Westphalian Symphony Orchestra last night performed Beethoven's Choral Symphony as a gesture of support for their British colleagues faced with loss of their jobs in the BBC's proposed cuts.

C. Hans Küng 1980

TWA introduce a new class of comfort-Ambassador Class.



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Ambassador Class has its own section of the plane and, whenever possible, you will have an unoccupied seat next to you.

You're going to like us

TWA

Ambassador Class will be available on all TWA widebodies from April 15. These are 747s and TriStars—the only widebodies TWA fly, because they're the ones passengers like.

Combined with TWA's Airport Express this is another way TWA is trying to take the hassle out of flying and make it more of a pleasure. If you've got business in the States, or even if you haven't, ask your Travel Agent to book you TWA Ambassador Class. You'll never want to fly any other way.

TWA

OVERSEAS

Pennsylvania primary next Tuesday holds the key to both Republican and Democratic nominations

Mr Kennedy fights crucial presidential test in the black ghettos

From Patrick Brogan
Philadelphia, April 16

Senator Edward Kennedy visited one of the slums of Philadelphia yesterday and the children loved it. It was as good as a circus. Some of their elders were less impressed.

"They're just here because of the election", a depressed, unemployed man in his fifties said. "You'll never see them when we need them. What do they care about black people? What have they ever done for us?"

This was in the heart of the black ghetto and the crowd's scepticism started with television, whose representatives were the chief attractions of the circus, and extended to Senator Kennedy, to the mayor of the city, Mr William Green, and to various other public officials who were on hand to bask in the television lights and in the flickering glory of the last of the Kennedys.

The biggest cheer went to a black disc jockey from a radio station: "Jordan Woods, the man with the goods".

The senator tried to affirm that he was different from other politicians, most notably from

Mr Jimmy Carter. "I pledge to myself", he shouted, "that as President of the United States, I will do my best to improve the quality of life in the cities of the United States."

Certainly, the quality of life in West Philadelphia is no better than that in the south Bronx in New York or in the ghettos of Chicago, Detroit, Washington or Atlanta. The patches of worn grass there glister with broken glass, the buildings reek of decay and the new high rise apartment blocks have the look of fortresses in man's land.

"There's no one comes out here after dark", the man said, "they'd get their throats cut. They break the lights in the elevators and mug people. You don't go in the stairs, you'd get murdered for 50 cents."

Mr Kennedy and Mr Green were promising hope and prosperity to the front of the crowd (their words were quite inaudible further back) and the man said: "Nobody around here wants to be on welfare, we don't want food stamps. What they want is jobs".

Another man added a dif-

ferent comment: "All they can talk about is health, education and welfare. We know all about that. What I wanted to hear about is politics. What do they propose to do about Iran? What has he got to say about the Middle East?" This man, for one, had heard politicians promises to improve the slums so often and to so little effect, that he has lost interest.

This is Kennedy's last stand and he must win the votes of the poor blacks of the Philadelphia slums if he is to carry Pennsylvania in the primary next Tuesday. The support of the mayor, an old friend who announced his accession to the senator.

He hopes it would do him more good than did the support of Mrs Jane Byrne, the Mayor of Chicago, whose own considerable unpopularity cost him many votes in the Illinois primary a month ago.

Pennsylvania likes to call itself the keystone state, the link between New England and the South during the exciting days of the American Revolution. Its key position in this year's primaries is largely fortuitous.

Pennsylvania primary assured Mr Carter the nomination. If he fails Mr Kennedy here next week the senator's last hopes will be gone, and he will have to find a way of graciously conceding defeat and rallying behind Mr Carter in the fight against Mr Ronald Reagan.

Pennsylvania is equally important to the Republicans. It is as much Mr George Bush's last stand as Mr Kennedy's. Mr John Anderson is no longer a serious contender for the Republican nomination, and is not running here. The two races are now two-man affairs, with the second man in each case in desperate straits.

The cold arithmetic shows

that Mr Bush has no real hope of beating Mr Reagan, even if he wins here, unless Mr Reagan makes a fatal mistake. But if Mr Bush is defeated on Tuesday, he will be unable to benefit from this hoped-for but unlikely miracle.

The Kennedy people are

merely speculating on what good news Mr Carter can announce just before the primary. He has managed to produce some striking event before any primary event so far, but he has been conspicuously absent from the campaign, and it is beginning to hurt him.

dinner for the Philadelphia Democratic Party, and gave extensive support to their candidate for the Philadelphia newspaper, in the slum.

He is following the same programme today, and tomorrow, and every day until the primary. He started it immediately after Easter and is showing amazing stamina and enthusiasm in carrying his message to the electorate.

The Carter people have released one of their opinion polls which shows that the senator is a few points ahead of the President in Pennsylvania. Nobody believes polls very much any longer: a few days before the New York primary, Mr Carter was reported to be far ahead. Mr Kennedy won, handsomely.

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merely speculating on what good news Mr Carter can announce just before the primary. He has managed to produce some striking event before any

primary event so far, but he has been conspicuously absent from the campaign, and it is beginning to hurt him.

Can America justify its anger at the allies for their inadequate support in the new Iranian crisis? Who was the party responsible for the die-hardening show of disarray in the alliance after the sudden breaking up of negotiations on the fate of the hostages?

Having often been accused

as a political commentator, of

being blindly pro-American,

I must say that I consider the

show of bad temper and bad

manners from the White House,

since the crisis flared up again,

to be a disgraceful performance,

which is damaging to the alliance.

These are serious matters, which

must be examined with great

carelessness and urgency, in

order to understand the reasons

why the Western partners found

themselves once again marching

out of step. Remedies for this

unfortunate state of affairs must be

urgently found. But being rude

to each other will not help.

On this side of the Atlantic, many of us felt that we were

being submitted, on the Iran

crisis, to a blind, hot-and-cold

shower treatment. We were first

asked to break economic relations,

then to wait for the result

of United Nations mediation;

then to get ready for action

again, only to be asked to pause

once more while a new, rather

secretive series of contacts was

being established between

America and President

Sadat.

To the very end of March, according to the highest American sources, the transfer of hostages to the Revolutionary Council was considered imminent and certain. Then, suddenly, all efforts failed and America's envoys to a few dozen countries "conveyed" similar "friendly" ultimatums to the United States allies, asking them to fall in line and to go on the warpath at once. Unless they proclaimed a boycott of Iran, they were told, America would go to war, and theirs would be the responsibility.

NO INSTITUTION CONNECTION

America's diplomats in Europe has no connection (outside the OECD) with the

Political cooperation

is no regular exchange

of information, as there is

between the Nine. The

crisis has proved

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If America today

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America's allies

short-sighted and

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United States appear

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demands.

Instead of just

at each other, it is

that we start a

series of what is

the alliance's tradit-

ions, and on how

they

can be freely diffi-

and

twisted.

But America's allies

find themselves in widely differing

situations. Even

the Nine, some have

almost no citizens left in Iran

and import little or no oil, and

the volume of their exports

to Iran is insignificant. Others

would find it extremely diffi-

and

twisted.

© Times Newspaper

World View

by Arrigo

U.S coordination w the allies fails again

to find a quick for Iranian oil and a number of firms in large public works where hundreds of thousands of their workers at present easy, even for the Nine things exactly alike, a estimate action.

In these democratic the general public are based to support a action which involves the sacrifice and its case of the Iran crisis no preparation for reason that even allies were left in the America. This will remembered as a test of lack of coordination formation between the Nine, the Nations channel of r was abandoned.

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ril 15

proposed three-day strike petered out after six hours. After the powerful railway went most train and to a halt, union leaders and rail workers were reconciled to a day by a board of and tonight the transport system was again. About 17 million were affected by the during the morning when most trains and about Japan were a half to support a not to pay increase the projected 6.4 rate of inflation this

commuters were re- the prospect of a transport strike. But hours of negotiations workers on private lines was called off before it began.

ay municipal under- ains in Tokyo and cities were again according to time-

the afternoon union presenting workers national railway led off their nation which had crippled and overland com- cies for a few hours

e terms of the agree- railway workers will pay £21. This will raise by 6.6 per cent.

Anderson, an Ameri- who had been

the protracted strike

in New

he was amazed by

of the strike in

re told they were like when we arrived days ago. I told my get about our plane through Japan by the strike began this was cancelled this. This would never New York. These w what it is all said.

strike, an annual did little to dis- economy. Millions and factory workers to their desks and last night, putting their companies conforts of home.

part the trade

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allow all trains

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the strike.

ands held s camps it trial

Moorehead

of members of

administration in

in "reeducation

after five years,

an Amnesty Inter-

report published

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not tried and

May and December,

panking civil ser-

professional people to

the old regime

ched to be "reedu-

cation's specially set

provinces of Phong-

Neua, S to Prince Sou-

uma, the former

minister and now

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Six big Indian banks are nationalized in surprise decision

From Richard Wigg

Delhi, April 16

Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, left Delhi today for the Zimbabwe independence celebrations, leaving behind a financial community astounded by the Government's decision last night to nationalize six large Indian banks. It was the first economic decision with a bite since she was returned to power in the January general election.

A total of 20 large banks are now in the public sector, representing more than 90 per cent of the country's banking. Mr Pranab Kumar Mukherjee, the Minister of Commerce, hastened to give an assurance in Calcutta today that there is no proposal to nationalize the 12 foreign-owned banks operating in India. Prominent among them is Grindlays.

It was pointed out that India is expanding its own banks abroad, notably in the oil-rich countries of the Middle East. There was strong criticism of the surprise decision at a specially summoned Cabinet meeting last night before Mrs Gandhi's departure. Nervous unloading on the Bombay Stock Exchange today reflected the shock seen throughout the business community which had been expecting more pragmatic measures from Mrs Gandhi and her team of economic ministers.

Mr H. S. Singhania, the president of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry said the decision was both "sad and bad" and would disturb the investment climate.

It was said Mr Singhania said because many urgent economic problems were crying out for solution, among them the

nationalized banking sector's standard of service to the country. He accused Mrs Gandhi's Government of frithering away its mandate on policies which had already been proved unsuccessful.

This was a reference to the nationalization in 1969 of 14 large banks by Mrs Gandhi which split the Congress Party.

President Sanjiva Reddy signed the nationalization ordinance last night under the legislative powers the constitution gives him when Parliament is in recess. Subsequent parliamentary approval is required, but Mrs Gandhi's overwhelming majority in the Lok Sabha is certain to ensure the power in the January general election.

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problems were crying out for

solution, among them the

1979.

US serviceman shot dead by Turkish terrorist group

From Simon Fiske

Ankara, April 16

Terrorists shot dead an American serviceman and a Turkish civilian today in the fashionable Istanbul suburb of Etiler.

The serviceman, identified by Turkish sources as Mr Sam Novello of the United States Navy, and Mr Ali Sabri Bayar, were walking from Mr Novello's flat when three men fired at them. Both were killed instantly.

The gunmen were escaping on a motor cycle when they ran into a police car. There was a brief exchange of fire and the men escaped, wounding one officer.

It was the fifth time that people claiming to belong to this group had chosen American victims since the beginning of

1979.

They were all finally arrested

and identified as members of

the clandestine Marxist-Leninist

Armed Propaganda Unit, which

is an offshoot of the Turkish

People's Liberation Front, a rural

guerrilla organization founded in the early seventies by Mr Mahir Cayan, a student leader.

It was the fifth time that people claiming to belong to this group had chosen American victims since the beginning of

1979.

She was happy enough, however, to talk about her son. She was happy, too, that she was going to stand again for President and confessed she was excited by the news. "I get the newspaper very early in the morning in Plains to see what happened yesterday," she said.

She was happy, too, to talk about the part women played in her son's life, and she did not agree that the President's wife had too much influence on him. "And I say that as her mother-in-law," she added.

"Rosie's the most important thing in his life," she said with no hint of jealousy in her voice.

She was satisfied, too, that her son was doing enough to represent women in senior positions within the American Administration. "Jimmy likes women better than he does men anyway," she observed.

Eventually she would like a woman to be elected as President.

Paratroops are banned from Hongkong bar

From Richard Hughes

Hongkong, April 16

A celebrated Australian bar in Hongkong, Ned Kelly's Last Stand, is now out of bounds to all garrison soldiers from the 1st Battalion of the Parachute Regiment.

Six other popular bars have also requested that the British Regiment is here on three months' reinforcement and has worked hard and very well along the border. They certainly did not come here to play around and have bad little or no opportunity to see anything of the real Hongkong.

Because of this and because their term is nearly up, they have been getting some rest and recuperation. It is unfortunate that a small number of the 700 may have been involved in these incidents.

The two partner Australian bars on each side of the harbour, the Whistling Magpie, are among the six other Hongkong bars which also want to keep the British paratrooper soldiers off their premises.

A spokesman for the British forces said: "The soldiers were dressed in civilian clothes and disappeared before the military police arrived, so they were not identified.

The British Parachute

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The field officers found that

Phnom Penh and other big

towns were being adequately

fed, but the needs of the

country-side where most of

the population live were

largely ignored.

One aid official suggested

that the Phnom Penh Govern-

ment was deliberately keep-

ing people on near-starvation

ration because it feared

stronger resistance from a

well-fed population.

Mr Robert Jackson, special

representative of the United

Nations Secretary General, will

attempt to remove difficulties

impeding distribution of food

and rice seed during a visit to

Phnom Penh. —UPI

Food was seen to be ready

for distribution in urban ware-

houses and at least 40b of rice

each month as well as fish,

chicken and vegetables. Such

generous rations appeared to

be part of the authorities

efforts to create a loyal

administration, the report said.

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Phnom Penh and other big

towns were being adequately

fed, but the needs of the

country-side where most of

the population live were

New Books

Masterpiece years

The Diary of Virginia Woolf

Volume III, 1925-1930

Edited by Anne Olivier Bell, assisted by Andrew McNeillie (The Hogarth Press, £10.50)

The third volume of Virginia Woolf's great diary, impeccably edited as ever, covers the reception and writing of all her most widely read books: *Mrs Dalloway*, *To the Lighthouse*, *Orlando*, *A Room of One's Own* and *The Waves*. It is so free of the mental and physical anguish of its predecessors—and we may be sure, of the two volumes still to come—that there is evidence on almost every page to support Anne Olivier Bell's claim that "These are perhaps the most fruitful and satisfying years of her life". Indeed, the mystery of personal human happiness is the central, suffusing mystery of the book:

*Nobody shall say of me that I have not known perfect happiness, but few could put their finger on the moment or say what made it. Even I myself, stirring occasionally in the root of content, could only say *Eustis this is all I want*.*

There is no mystery, however, about the immediate connexion between her own happiness and everyday phenomena. "The immense success of our life", she writes in gratitude and without complacency after 13 years of marriage, "is I think that our treasure is bid away; or rather in such common things that nothing can touch it." Readers of this *Diary* will already know that "such common things"—a ride on a bus, the purchase of a hat, a walk over the Downs, almost any kind of English weather, a new pen, a pencil, recorded with joyful but disciplined exactness by a novelist obsessed by her "inability" to retain facts or write a "real narrative" in her novels. This is what she used her Diary for and even though she is watching herself the whole time, she sustains superbly the illusion of transmuting spontaneity back into what Byron had made it: a refined communicating art. She was also in training, learning to describe young Robert Graves, old Thomas Hardy or, stunningly well, a trip north by train and bus to see a total eclipse of the sun. Only the General Strike defeated her. She was excited by the prospect of patronizing a dressmaker recommended by the editor of *Vogue*.

Momentous years. 1925 to 1930: Leonard and Virginia Woolf's dream of economic and literary independence begins to come true. Her sales figures begin to climb, and each rise—*A Room of One's Own* sold more than 10,000 copies—is immediately accounted in terms of, and brings a rise in, the material well-being. They agree that in future all royalties above £200 will be shared equally between them, and at one point she takes great pride in helping to support no fewer than nine people by her pen. Even so, in 1930, Yeats has still not heard of her.

They buy their first car—a second-hand Singer—they exchange it for one with a sunroof, which takes them all over Sussex and to the South of France. They buy the terrace field next to Monks House, and an oil stove: she looks forward to cooking. Carpets, chairs, clothes and study-expansions follow. At the height of her love affair with

Vita Sackville-West—"a bit of a bore for Leonard, but not enough to worry him"—and torn between the unpredictable demands of her own genius and the attractions of the metropolitan world, Virginia has her ears pierced, her hair cut, and acquires a cheque book of her own.

If at the end she resolves never to waste time taking tea or dinner with the likes of Lady Cunard again, and burns her evening dress in the gas fire (something found hard to picture, and for once even Mrs Bell, so good on everything from the uncrowned King of Barcelona to Aladdin and Veritas Jamps, is no help) it must be in the knowledge that it can now be replaced without upsetting Leonard if the siren call of "the party consciousness" proves, once again, impossible to resist. She accepts invitations later regretted almost as frequently as her notorious maid gives notice and is taken back.

She is pitiless towards the unattractive dead (Lady Strachey, "burnt yesterday with a bunch of red and white carnations on top of her"); the aging Beatrice Webb, "far less ornamental than of old: wispy, untidy drab, with a stain on her skirt and a key on her watch chain"; and the neutered mediocracy of Bennett, Galworthy, Gaskell and Squire. Absurd tragedies delight her, a grotesquely elegant and funny passage imagines the mid-Atlantic drama (1927) of the outraged "Flying Princess" Löwenstein-Wertheim and her apologetic pilot.

The Vita affair, and the vigorous pursuit of Virginia by the unscrupulous Ethel Smyth, both have their place in the Diary, but each is far smaller, and more coolly allotted, than the extravaganzas, legends, and "innumerable" entries at the same time. For the Diary is her workshop, where she works (hard), and the most enthralling aspect of this third volume is that it allows us to watch more closely than is usually possible to watch such things, the genesis of each masterpiece as she attains the height of her powers. Two examples:

She is writing in her Turkish dress, attended by small boys, down the gallery, writing them on like some tall sailing ship—a dog of covey of noble English life dogs wallowing, children crowding, all very free and stately... All the centuries link up in the past experience, not dead, not forgotten, but a crowd of dead, of staled, not dead at all.

The fantastical world of *Orlando* begins so to take shape, and, later, that of *The Waves*:

The idea has come to me that what I want to do now is to saturate every atom. I mean to eliminate all waste, deadness, superficiality, to give the world a meaning which I mean saturated? Is that not my grudge against novels—that they select nothing? The poets succeeding by simplifying: practically everything is left out. I want to put practically everything in yet to one side. That is what I want to do in The Moths.

Thinking aloud; questioning her own enterprise; determined above all, at whatever cost to health or reputation or pleasure in "common things", to follow five years of increasing reputation by taking the most ambitious risk of her career. Thank God she didn't call it *The Moths*.

Michael Ratcliffe

avoids falling into folly. She remembers always she is telling us a story, not humming a heaven-blessed hymn. So here we get our usual mealy puzzle (how can it be that the nice provincial doctor, left a last-minute torture by a rich old lady, did not murder her?), even if we don't quite get our final-pages courtroom clash (some thrusy counsel interviews, though). And it's all to do with nice, easy prose, clear and running as a country stream. Yum.

Dirty Tricks, by Chapman Pincher (Sidgwick & Jackson, £5.95). Now it can be half-told. Distinguished detection correspondent (undistinguished fiction-writer) fascinatingly hints at many a real-life happening in this high-level espionage.

Fortress, by Gabrielle Lord (Aurora Press, £4.95). Australian outback teacher and schoolchildren kidnapped. A first novel that, unashamedly, strings at the heartstrings in such an unaffected prose.

Time and Again, by Jack Finney (Weidenfeld & Nicholson, £5.95). A real curiosity: illustrated, long (400 pages) story presupposing time-trips to past New York with much detailed research and a mystery superimposed.

Back Street Runner, by Paul Breckin (Michael Joseph, £5.95). The world of provincial rock-music, full of eye-opening detail. Presented (a trifle bisterically) through a tale of murder and chase.

Leonardo and Others, by Michael Sellers (Macmillan, £4.95). First book set in London art-dealer world with engaging private-eye hero. Imbroglio a bit confusing, but writing bright as a new pin.

Grand Slam, by Ritchie Perry (Collins, £4.75). Skate-along story of cheeky sub-Deightonish British agent seeking millionaire's lost daughter. Plenty happens in rural cult-haunted Norfolk.

Marsh Blood, by Joanna Marcus (Hutchinson, £5.50). Lais of incident, yet more detail (Romney Marsh well served) as story of murder and love gushes out, tumbling hapless reader along.

H. R. F. Keating



Elizabeth I when Princess, probably painted for her father c. 1546, from the Queen's collection, in Renaissance Jewellery by Yvonne Hackenbroch (Sotheby Parke-Bernet, £55). The interlaced pattern filling the gold ground of the lozenge-shaped brooch is very like the pattern on a bookbinding that the eleven-year-old Elizabeth embroidered for her stepmother, Katherine Parr, at almost exactly the same time that her portrait was painted.

Quis Quis in Britannia

The People of Roman Britain

By Anthony Birley

(Batsford, £3.95)

Later Roman Britain

By Stephen Johnson

(Routledge & Kegan Paul, £5.50)

Anthony Birley is aware that his title may mislead, although it exactly describes his scope and purpose. So far from being a who's who of administrative literature that is not poetry—but that I mean saturated? Is that not my grudge against novels—that they select nothing? The poets succeeding by simplifying: practically everything is left out. I want to put practically everything in yet to one side. That is what I want to do in The Moths.

Birley, indeed, seems to know them all. His index of persons, giving only selection of the more important and interesting lists almost 600 names, from Aaron, a third century martyr with a Jewish name from Caerleon, to Vrocata, whose sole commemoration is on an early fourth century cooking pot used for a cremation burial and taking in on the way the first named British sailor, a Devon man, and the first British civil

servant, a slave with a Greek name meaning "Blameless". More names may be added from the notes to the various chapters despite the author's fear that some of the very numerous graffiti and other inscriptions may have eluded him.

This vast collection of material is disposed not chronologically but according to function and status from high officials and senior officers of the Roman army and administration to slaves and freedmen. It that plods along the trail blazed by Hiawatha. The Indians are so very, very good and the white people so very, very horrid that the eulogy becomes a melodrama. If Teddy Roosevelt really lifted a hand and said "How! to the natives he met in the wilderness, he should have run a cigar store with a wooden Indian outside, and not the White House.

Let the Lion Eat Scone is also an American family saga, but written with such economy and grace that it is a marvel of a first novel. Eileen Southern's tale is the story of Sophie Williams, who comes up from the South to New York City, marries into a soul-singing family, has 15 children and makes them into a complete church choir and band. The prose is rich and simple and easy with the cadences of black speech and gospel meetings. Yet the characters of the Southerners are complex and subtle behind their fervor and exaction.

Janus sings in harmony with both good and bad mouths in this remarkable thanksgiving from a born writer.

The Roman god was, of course, also the god of beginnings, so he would have smiled upon another extraordinary first novel, *Atlantic City Proof* by Christopher Cook Gilmore. Impossibly, it lives up to the promise of its opening sentence: "I was born inside an old elephant during a three-day dry northeaster". It recounts the tale of a sea-crazy boy called Garvey Leek, brought up in Atlantic City before Prohibition. He becomes a young runny-runner along with a foul-mouthed gutter angel, called Minnie Creek. Swearing, carousing and daring-to-turn to romance in the end, after most of the Jack London and Scott Fitzgerald myths have been explored and exploded with love and good humour.

Gilmore has brought off the most difficult of tricks, the writing of a romantic adventure without condescension and with his tongue in his cheek. He draws a delightful, engaging and nostalgic picture of a holiday city before the corruption and the casinos arrive to foul its boardwalk.

The *Apathetic Book Joint* is a collection of short stories by Daniel Fuchs, a Brooklyn teacher who became a Hollywood screenwriter. It is the most split-minded and double-faced of these books, well worthy of the Roman god of contradiction and communication. Half a dozen of the opening stories about Brooklyn are minor masterpieces, so excellent is Fuchs's ear and his discrimination. He captures the melancholy behind the quirks at the bar, the heartbeat between the lines. He knows the power of the unsaid and the incongruous remark. At his best, he is superior to Damon Runyon, because he has no sentimentality for his trapped urban creatures.

His later Hollywood stories, however, are a burned-over district. His disillusion with that charred wasteland of commercial dreams makes his characters and descriptions distasteful and remote. He does not match Joan Didion's more truthful sense of Hollywood as a dull, family, money-making machine on the brink of a canyon, or a nervous collapse.

Alas, Fuchs is one of the many good writers who took the Lombard Road to California and were engulfed by the things which they meant to exploit, so that their exacting prose finally becomes weary, flat, stale and profitless.

D. C. Earl

Grand Old Soldier Duke

Prince Henry, Duke of Gloucester

By Noble Frankland

(Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £10)

When the late Duke of Gloucester died in 1974, Capital Radio asked me to broadcast an off-the-cuff obituary over the telephone: my mind went blank. Then random snippets about this royal uncle of little brain occurred to me. How he apparently used to stand for hours after official dinners oblivious of the fact that everyone else was obliged to do the same; how he would doggedly stick to his "bwf" even if it turned out to be wide of the mark; how his high-pitched whistling laughter reverberated when someone fell into a lavatory in his presence. How a telling critic of Churchill's wartime administration suddenly destroyed his case by suggesting that the Duke of Gloucester should be made C-in-C, thus reducing the House of Commons to paroxysms of mirth. His passion for speed and the regrettable incident after Churchill's funeral when his Rolls-Royce ran off the road and overturned, depositing the unfortunate Duchess in a field. None of this seemed appropriate somehow and I eventually stammered out a platitudine to the effect that the Duke had been a professional soldier and a loyal servant of the crown.

"Soldier Royal" was indeed the title of a commemorative exhibition about the Duke at the Imperial War Museum, whose director, Dr Noble Frankland, was duly invited to write a heavy psychological study. "I shall try to help you by being a good boy", Prince Henry

wrote to his father and, as we can see from Dr Frankland's worthy tribute, he did his plodding best to live up to this promise. He would have been happiest pursuing the career of an ordinary Army officer and Dr Frankland sympathetically explains the regimental frustrations he had to endure for the sake of his princely duties. The Duke's endearing qualities come across nicely in the letter he wrote regularly to Queen Mary: a complete edition of these letters might enjoy a success as a sort of *Diary of a Royal Nobody*.

There are a few amusing anecdotes to break up the remorselessedium of the official record and the hilarious mishaps of the Ethiopian coronation recall Evelyn Waugh. During the last war, the Duke took to consulting his commanding officer, Brigadier Fanshawe, about the Duchess's gynaecological problems, but the Brigadier not unnaturally did not feel particularly competent to give an opinion, and indeed on one occasion was so anxious to avoid doing so that he slipped off to bed. Before he had undressed, however, he heard the Duke knock on the door. Fanshawe, still in uniform, jumped smartly into bed. Prince Henry entered: Fanshawe feigned sleep. Prince Henry shook him. Fanshawe then had to explain why he was in uniform in bed.

I am sorry to say that there were several occasions in this book when, unlike the Brigadier, my sleep was not feigned.

Hugh Montgomery-Massingberd

Fox Hunting, by The Duke of Beaufort (David & Charles, £10.95). There cannot be anybody else alive today who was given a pack of hounds as an eleventh birthday present. Now, some 69 years later, the Duke of Beaufort—whose 80th birthday it was at Easter—has distilled his experience in the hunting field into a most attractive, readable, and informative volume. On the fly sheet there is a generous tribute to Gloria Cotesloe, who

evidently helped the Duke, I suspect by converting his tape-recorded homilies into clear and interesting prose. She has managed to do so without losing the flavour of the man, who, even if not surprising, since any man who has spent 69 years bossing about a pack of hounds and generally lording it—should I say "mastering" it—over a field of hunting, is not likely now to be all tentatively in the way he issues instructions, even on paper.

Fiction

Creek Mary's Blood

By Dee Brown

(Hutchinson, £5.95)

Let the Lion Eat Scone

By Eileen Southern

(Dent, £5.50)

Atlantic City Proof

By Christopher Cook Gilmore

(Gallance, £5.95)

The Apathetic Book Joint

By Daniel Fuchs

(Secker & Warburg, £5.95)

The Umbrella

(Cape, £5.95)

Theatre

(Palladium, £5.95)

THEATRES

THE ARTS

Howard Hodgkin behind the enemy's lines



Photograph by Peter Trevor

"Being a painter in England is rather like being in enemy territory," says Howard Hodgkin, whose latest graphics are on show at Waddington's in Cork Street, while Bernard Jacobson is putting on a retrospective exhibition of his prints in New York later this month. "It's an impossible situation to be in. You have no social identity at all—and I think everyone needs one a bit. It's a very improvised life. Even when travelling behind the Iron Curtain I found you were thought to be a member of society."

"At parties here, people tend to drift away when you say you are a painter. A don at Oxford once said to me: 'You're really quite intelligent people in this country are for a painter'." That was in 1957 when Hodgkin spent a year as artist in residence at Brasenose College. "I found Oxford pretty philistine literature." In the art world at more drawn to music and least, Hodgkin, who is 47 and part of brilliant Quaker dynasty, studied with Nobel prize-winners, rates as outstandingly intelligent; notwithstanding, or perhaps thanks to his brief, frequently punctuated formal education.

In 1940 he was evacuated with his mother to Long Island, New York, for three years, when he stayed at first at the very grand home of a failed Republican candidate, John W. Davis. "It was like the edge of Oyster Bay, and the lawns of these huge houses among successful artists, he joined together." Exceptionally wanted to become a painter from the age of five. After prep school back in England, he ran away from Eton after some 18 months there. He had much enjoyed being taught art by Willard Blunt, but he wanted to get on with his vocational later, after a crammer in Wales too remote to run away from, he abandoned from Bryanston at 15, and stayed away.

His father, who was foreign manager of ICI and genuinely interested in art ("though not in mine, thank God"), was worried about his future ability to support himself. But after a holiday back on Long Island, during which he painted an astonishingly

mature domestic interior, he went off to Camberwell art school. "It was a great time to be there—Victor Pasmore, William Coldstream and Claude Rogers were all teaching—but I went to films most of the time", he recalls. Before long he moved on to Bath Academy of Art at Corsham, where at last he settled under the wing of its inspired principal, Clifford Ellis, and a dazzling staff including William Scott, Kenneth Armitage, Peter Lanyon, William Bronner and Jack Smith.

Later, after briefly teaching art part-time at Charterhouse (still rather proud of its philistinism), he reverted to Corsham for ten years as a teacher. "That's when I really learnt. I used to go down on the train and talk about painting with the other teachers: Adrian Heath, Harry Mundy, Gillian Ayres, Harry Denny. It was like a little university."

Finally he taught briefly at Chelsea and the Slade—and bought an old water mill near Corsham, where he established his main home and studio with his wife and two sons, now aged 20. They may have a somewhat austere base near the British Museum, a wonderful location for someone as deeply versed in the history of art as Hodgkin. He is now, after seven years as a trustee of the Tate Gallery, a trustee of the National Gallery, is reckoned a formidable operator in those upper stratospheres, and is decidedly erudite.

Ingres, Delacroix and Degas have been very important to me, and Vuillard is one of my favourites: he is very mysterious, and still neglected. Seurat also ranks high in Hodgkin's pantheon, and he is particularly interested in classical painters like Poussin—painters who make an enclosed world (as he

does). "Poussin was not a representational artist in the sense that Rembrandt was. Vermeer was both classical and representational".

Another of his passions is for Indian painting, and now for India itself, which he has visited annually for 12 years. Indian painting too he regards as microcosmic in tendency. He is also fascinated by its use of colour, for both emotional and decorative purposes, and by some time and by the concurrent development of almost every kind of representational language: in the same painting an abstract sky, simplified yet perhaps highly decorated sleeve, from which may protrude a modelled hand. Matisse's influence, often detected by critics, came more from Matisse's attitude to painting, his belief—extraordinary in a way, Hodgkin, feels—in its validity, than from the form or colour of his

paintings, which have periodically influenced so many.

Hodgkin finds it odd that anyone should think of his painting as abstract. In America, now his biggest market, where they are more familiar with abstract painting, its figurative nature is taken for granted, he says. "My pictures are in fact totally representational; but what they are trying to do is to connect with what is represented in the kind of language which people used to think of as representational. My eternal problem is to go far enough away from literal representation to say what I mean.

"The subject of them is nearly always an emotional situation, related to a physical setting ("often a room"). I can only get to the real subject when the legible things I started with have been turned into something completely physical. I am describing—but not using the usual language. In effect, a degree of abstraction helps him to recreate the experience. No doubt it is partly the appalling closeness of visual art to the burden of his knowledge of painting, and partly his consciousness of the painting as an object with its own life which gives his finished works their peculiarly loaded resonance.

He is a very slow worker, so high prices are in a way a necessity, given his meagre output. But he dislikes the fact that many people who want to buy his paintings cannot do so—and that dealers, even when, as now, competing for his work, all demand their 50 per cent commission. "Artists are not in a strong enough position to fight back", he laments.

Perhaps they might be better placed—and have less sense of being behind enemy lines—if the home market were larger, with less need for the coast and complications of selling abroad. The day when the British rediscovered the value of art and good design does not, however, seem to be at hand. No wonder so many well designed goods are imported, and so much good painting exported.

Roger Berthoud

La traviata
Sadler's Wells

William Mann

Kent Opera makes a welcome return this week to Sadler's Wells Theatre, bringing two very recent productions as well as an older but interesting *Magic Flute*. They began Tuesday with Michael Miller's *La traviata* in Jonathan Miller's production, new for last year's Edinburgh Festival when it was best by Alfreo's failings (Thomas Hemmings' singing was somewhat unsteady but always cogent) and the immortal *cry* of "Amami, Alfreo" here sung in Michael Alford's translation, acceptable when audible, filled out the emotional portraiture, likewise the refrains of "Qui desata giungi", above all the music of the last act in which Miss Gomez became something like a great Violetta, with legato and a command of nuance that made one hold one's breath for the magic might vanish. Thank Heaven she gave us two versions!

Keith Lewis's heartfelt yet unexaggerated Alfreo matched her impersonation. The others, visibly all quite young (why not?), looked and sounded well. Roger Norrington in the pit took a brisk and muscular, never unloving, view of Verdi's non-trivial score.

pictures can be perfectly appreciated. They suit Verdi's music too, the parties (the two cabaret turns, fortune-tellers and toro-riders, more credible than ever in my experience) as well as the domestic scenes. Chiefly Dr Miller's view explains the touching, deeply human, completely un-fairy Violetta of Jill Gomez.

Some opera-goers may find her portrayal much too denture. It lacks the brilliance associated with the music of the first act, but even there it is cleanly and musically sung. The duet with Alfreo's failings (Thomas Hemmings' singing was somewhat unsteady but always cogent) and the immortal *cry* of "Amami, Alfreo" here sung in Michael Alford's translation, acceptable when audible, filled out the emotional portraiture, likewise the refrains of "Qui desata giungi", above all the music of the last act in which Miss Gomez became something like a great Violetta, with legato and a command of nuance that made one hold one's breath for the magic might vanish. Thank Heaven she gave us two versions!

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Philharmonia/Rattle
Festival Hall

Noël Goodwin

Having nursed his players through two earlier performances within the previous three days, Simon Rattle had the measure of Mahler's fourth symphony for the Philharmonia Orchestra's concert on the South Bank on Tuesday, and I found it, myself warmly responding to it, as if it were bright and new. In a sense it was, as Mr Rattle unfolded it like a landscape freshly lured after rain, a landscape with its own degrees of perspective and its variegated detail of foreground, middle-ground and background within the musical conception, shifting our attention to each of these in turn, according to Mahler's mercurial placing of them.

As a colleague noted on this page on Tuesday, there was a sense of impulsive urgency in the way the conductor began to plot his course through the opening movement, an eye fixed on the distant objective, an ear attentive to immediate niceties of instrumental phrasing as well as to rhythmic spirit. There was a moment, not long before the end of it, when Mahler seemed about to turn on Gershwin through an over-

spread of harmonic sentiment, but Mr Rattle held it just enough in check to turn it back on Mahler's sharper purpose.

The colours and the character were sharp enough to etch the line of the second movement, although the ghostly danse macabre of the solo violin was more endearing than sinister. The yearning beauty of the slow movement was admirably judged in pacing and character, with a firm contrast of weight from the interruptions to the music's search for that peace of mind which comes with the child's vision of heavenly bliss in the Wunderhorn poems of the finale. And Mayhew sets this soprano song brightly and with a folk song's innocence, leaving us with her into Mahler's ultimate haven of innocent serenity.

Beethoven's Violin Concerto comprised the first part of the programme and fared less well in a performance so leisurely that I thought it must have started with the slow movement, the solo playing of Ida Haendel lacking the vitality to give character to her musical sensitivity. The orchestral playing was in need of more careful balance, to support the soloist's somewhat heavy pressure, and at the end of the largo Mr Rattle looked to be hauling the orchestra almost bodily into position for her to launch the finale.

Mother
ICA

Ned Chaillet

Someone backstage at the ICA Theatre is not as interested in luncheon theatre as the paying customers out front. While Alastair Campbell rambled on through his monologue for the audience, there were thumps, rustlings and shuffles from the back. When Mr Campbell reached the point in his speech to an unseen interrogator where he matter-of-factly says "You want me to finish", the man backstage let out a breathy "Yes" and, while the audience ignored it, it had become a two-man show.

When someone attempts a solo performance there are enough difficulties. Capturing and keeping the public's attention is the chief one, and marching one's style to the

material is another. Since the script is by Mr Campbell, he is presumably at home and he has no difficulty in modulating each word to its intended meaning. There are rather too many of them, however. His success in keeping the audience's attention from the erratic rackets at the rear is more proof of his talent.

His story is not very surprising: an ambiguous recitation about the difficulties of life with mother dwelling on her wearing of pink rubber gloves, her castration of a cat and her more subtle illustration of the narrator. Mr Campbell's warden style perches some fanciful humour and literary description, as when he describes the cat as "smiling as only a neutered tom can", but the drama rather falsely hangs on killing the mother. He has a subtle power to control, but it is very lightly applied.

Should you see the performance, you need not applaud. He will not return for a bow.

Belgium's ballet companies preparing for London

Belgians this year celebrate 150 years of independence, and among the celebrations will be a kind of cultural merry-go-round taking the ballet and opera companies from its leading theatres to play in one another's houses. There are three large ballet companies, based in Antwerp, Brussels and Charleroi, and their names are a reminder that in Belgium patriotism is local as well as national.

In the south, the Ballet Royal de Wallonie serves mainly the French-speaking population with a repertory containing a high proportion of classical favourites. I reported a few years back on their interesting production of *Coppelia*: this season they have been dancing *Swan Lake* and *The Sleeping Beauty* and are about to embark on a new long ballet, *La Dame aux Camélias*.

The Flemish-speaking north apparently offers modern programmes offered by the Koninklijke Ballet van Vlaanderen, the Flemish Ballet of the Twentieth Century, when appearing in its home town of Brussels is obliged by law to have the programme printed in both languages. Two of those companies are

to have London seasons shortly. Bejart's company will be back at the Coliseum for the first week in June; the Flanders company will then just have left Sadler's Wells after playing there for the last two weeks of May, to be followed by a week in Leeds and another in Manchester. I have just been lucky enough to catch both companies on their home ground.

The Royal Ballet of Flanders began operating 10 years ago, and my only previous experience of them had been a performance during their second season, when I was most impressed by the dancers than by the productions. The dancers are still admirable, and the repertory much improved, drawing from what I knew of some of the ballets in other productions as well as what I saw this time.

Jeanne Brahms is their Ninette de Valois: a former dancer, a versatile choreographer, a first-rate teacher (quite a few of her pupils have been seen as leading members of Netherlands Dance Theatre, Bejart's company and Festival Ballet), who is also a director capable of taking a long view, and I would guess a formidable committee woman besides.

You could say that it does for the Twenties what *The Grand Tour* does for the Thirties, with a comparable group of nicely caricatured portraits and a number of lively ensembles. The company play it with flair for light comedy, led by Patricia Carey as the ballerina, with Tom Van Cauwenbergh as her impresario, and Karin Heynckx with Alexander Sombart providing a lyrical interlude as the bridal pair.

Heynckx and Van Cauwenbergh had the leads also in *Ein-Dor*, a brooding survey of King Saul's foreknowledge of his imminent death, with him reading the music of his human aspiration, himself a

Moshe Efrati and Zvi Avni, both from Israel.

The Koninklijk Ballet van Vlaanderen draws upon a range of choreographers; the Ballet of the Twentieth Century has been primarily an expression of Maurice Bejart's personality. Over the years he has occasionally invited other choreographers from outside, and often encouraged aspirants within the company, but on the whole their works have not lasted. It will be interesting to see whether John Neumeier's creation for them (part of an exchange which takes Bejart to Hamburg later in the season) will have better luck.

It is certainly ambitious, on a scale that matches Bejart's own grandiloquence. The title is *Mahler*, with a subtitle drawn from the "Wayfarer" cycle: *Lieb und Leid und Welt und Traum*. The music is Mahler's first symphony for the first part, followed after an interval by the Adagio of the unfinished tenth.

With so vast a musical canvas available, I am surprised that Neumeier thought it necessary to add passages danced in silence, and to the sound of wind or sea. They serve to reinforce the theme he has read into the music of human aspiration, himself a

John Percival



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Last night's television

Whicker's World
Yorkshire

Michael Ratcliffe

The San Francisco Police Department can be quite delicate, formal. "Is someone accused and bleeding in there?" they inquire patiently from the landing after many minutes of silence from behind the door. Long, long pause. Then (faint note of pique that the question had not been put so correctly before): "Yes... Me." He still would not open (people were always pretending to be the police outside the apartment door); then, eventually, "I'm gonna gamble." And there he was, Pop Davis, a real nice guy, drug pusher, with blood over his face and skull.

"Some of the bloom has gone off the world's affair with this outrageous up-and-down city," said the man in the natty check jacket who had been watching the scene. Whicker, spending a whole month with the force.

Alan Whicker is enthralled by violence, vulgarity, wealth,

energy and the sociology of sex (yes, it is a wide field) and this two-hour programme on the SFPD—specifically on the recruitment of women and, now, of homosexuals into the force—heralded his return to California for six programmes which will range over the latest West Coast manifestations of all five. I thought it was a bit repetitive—there was an awful lot of walling about in patrol cars on shiny wet

nights, all shot in the grainy and vivid colours of CBS News—but as a demonstration of American rough justice tempered by good intentions, it was highly revealing.

Robert Flemyng will take the title role in Peter Gill's production of *Julius Caesar*, which opens at the Riverside Studios, Hammersmith, on May 21, and runs until the end of June.

Others in the cast are John

Price as Mark Antony, John Shrapnel as Brutus, Michael Byrne as Cassius, Gillian Barge as Calpurnia and Anthony Head as Octavius.

On Her Own
Riverside

Irving Wardle

Before arming herself with a blond wig and spidit dentures to launch into the official programme with Leiber and Stoller's "Ready to Begin Again", Eleanor Bron confesses to some doubts over the title of her one-woman show.

Rightly so. True, she is on her own with an accompanist (Patric Schmid) for 90 minutes, and a fair chunk of the entertainment consists of her own material. But at the same time, the stage is thronged with protective ghosts. From her opening second-hand funny story to the recurring names of John Fortune and Michael Frayn, she seems still cocooned with the Cambridge satirists in whose company she brightened

British television in the 1960s.

Since then she has continued to live the scene as a performer and writer, without developing a robust public personality. Her brilliant bike-riding memoir *Life and Other Punctures* consists largely of a series of narrow escapes from the clutch of inferior acquaintances; and her career bears witness to the same dread of cliché and resistance to being labelled, plus the sense of being scrutinized by an elite rather than making contact with an audience.

In the present show, she seems ill at ease until she slips on a character mask, and she even rounds the evening off with a mock-concocted piece called "Breadcrumbs" about a lady who likes so few people that she prefers grinding up loaves for the birds. It is quite funny, but it makes a frosty epilogue.

Otherwise her own sketches

keep up the attack on awful swigging householder helpfully people with money: a gin-rising her voice to a blind piano tuner ("So you're blind! You don't know what you're missing!"); and another Home Counties lady shot dead by her husband while penning the letter to an adulterous letter. The best of these (another collaboration with Mr Fortune) introduces a television course in do-it-yourself surgery in the brisk Fanny Craddock manner.

The same talents crop up in sketches from other hands: a police gossip with the Almighty by Michael Frayn ("I mean my youngest sister used to be Wafford, as thou knowest"), and one John Mortimer's exposures of sexual excess in the suburbs. Alongside this confident satire, Miss Bron also includes quantities of semi-comic and entirely straight material haunted by a dismaying sense of futility, aging, and death.

Coming from writers as diverse as Studs Terkel, Randall Jarrell, and Peter Nichols, it is all high quality stuff—not least two farewell letters from fighter pilots, one British, one Japanese, before making their final mission. The material is clearly there because she cares for it: but equally it seems that the more closely it touches her, the less it activates her talent as a performer.

It is easy to praise the show in negative terms, as a tentative self-portrait containing not a single false note. But one could have put up with a few false notes in exchange for more passages, like her exuberant Dionysus' pair girl or her deadpan Jacques. Prevent number, when she really comes in life and takes a few risks. This might happen more often in the songs with the aid of

Small businesses



A way out of economic decline

ICI, Britain's largest industrial group, employed 132,000 people in the Kingdom, 201,000 world wide. In employed 89,000 people in the Kingdom and 148,000 world wide. Group sales in 1974 were £2,954.8m. Sales totalled £5,368m.

alone. With a more than the ravages of inflation, founded in the nineteenth century, the mercantile and the sources of growth and the sources of new employment and new wealth must be looked for elsewhere.

During the 1970s the conviction has grown that small businesses are the answer. For many of their more evangelical devotees they are not merely one way out of our economic decline, even during a period of inflation.

The reasoning is simple: give a businessman with a bright idea £250,000 and he may create 15 new jobs, perhaps 20 if he is in a service industry. If the idea works, he will create more jobs and his profits, wages, taxes and rates will all be new net gains for the economy. Give ICI, GKN, Tube Investments or British Steel £250,000 and it will

probably be used to streamline some operation, probably reducing the workforce. The percentage growth in profits will be undetectable as will new taxes or rates, if there are any.

So although between £12,000 and £17,000 of new investment will create a job in a small business, the figure for job creation in large companies is put at £40,000 to £50,000 a job, though estimates vary very widely indeed.

A study by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the United States showed that 65 per cent of new jobs in the past 10 years were created by companies employing fewer than 20 people.

More American research—this time from the National Science Foundation—showed that the amount of innovation was greater in small companies. The NSF said that small companies were 24 times more efficient at producing new ideas than big companies.

With unemployment apparently heading inexorably towards two million, the attractions of stimulating Britain's 1,300,000 small businesses enough to encourage them to take on a parent holding company just one extra employee merely saddled local effi-

ciency operations with the employing 32 million people in Japan.

This hardly 1,300,000 now

accounts for 96 per cent of the total turnover of United Kingdom companies. Their

total turnover of £57,000m represents 20 per cent of United Kingdom corporate turnover.

So the sector is looking

sickly both in absolute numbers and in structure.

Remedial measures must by

their nature, take time and

there is no certainty that

the process of decline can be

reversed. Will a resurgence

of private wealth available

for investment really

regenerate the spirit of risk-

taking?

Do the opportunities

really exist in the

modern British economy?

Meanwhile, unnoticed until the Bolton committee, new enterprises were not starting up. The reasons were complex but they can be summarized most simply as the combination of an emphasis on the war on a tax system designed to encourage investment by the individual either in his house or in institutional savings systems; second, the need for the huge burgeoning institutions like pension funds to invest safely in blue chip equities or government securities rather than in risky small enterprises.

For out of the 1,300,000 only 100,000 are manufacturing businesses. Of the rest there are 290,000 in construction, 150,000 in agriculture, 235,000 in retailing, 50,000 in professional services, 100,000 in catering, 50,000 in motor trades, 105,000 in other services, 60,000 in transport and 75,000 in wholesaling.

This represents an alarmingly low level of manufacturing in the sector. However, it is unlikely that these figures, which became available only just before the Budget, will influence the government's policy. The present political climate is in favour of general rather than selective help; the latter smacks too much of intervention in the free market.

So the sector was

squeezed by takeovers and

by reduced incentives and

opportunity for entrepre-

neurial endeavour. Now

our

1,300,000 small

businesses

with their

4,500,000 employees and

5,400,000 small businesses

are

in

Death duties and taxes take their toll

Aunt Agatha's legacy is sadly missed

ta suggest that portion of companies—as many as—have parents—proprietors of companies. If the professional formers are in the foundation also in the foundations. Foreign companies, often independently have a social purpose such as lambs, our might win promotion companies, often historically have been foreigner, are among the most of the business.

After both the world wars, instead of going back to finish, say, a craft apprenticeship alongside many young students, many manufacturers and a host of others?

Psychology, too, is important. Research carried out by Jonathan Boswell for his book *Small Firms and Decline of Small Firms* suggests that business founders tend to be losers from the outset. For great, many it seems to be the itch to be independent, to be one's own boss, which started them off.

Any survey of small companies invariably runs into problems with definitions. When does a small firm become medium sized or even large? Does the answer depend on turnover, profits, number of employees, or company

structure? Should it include farmers, doctors, shopkeepers, laundries, jobbing butchers, taxi drivers, restaurants and a host of others?

Taking manufacturing enterprises alone, one estimate is that there are about 60,000 companies in Britain each with fewer than 500 employees. Of these it is estimated that about 45,000 are private and independent companies. Figures published by the Confederation of British Industry on companies employing up to 100 show that about 20 per cent of manufacturing employees in a small company.

The Government's Bolton committee of inquiry into small companies whose report was published in 1971, concluded that there were three main criteria of a small company:

It should have a relatively small share of its market. It should be managed by its owner in a personal way and not through the medium of a formal management structure with separate functions being managed by specialists.

It should not form part of a larger enterprise which could provide financial assistance and backing.

On this basis, the Bolton committee suggested that there were at least 1,250,000 small businesses (more than 90 per cent of all companies) and that small businesses employed more than seven million people (about a third of the employed population).

Small companies are much in evidence in traditional industries such as textiles, printing and publishing. They also offer specialist services to big factories such as the car manufacturers. Industries in which there is an important design element and relatively low capital costs, such as clothing and furniture, have always nurtured small companies.

They are most prevalent in commerce, where capital requirements tend to be lower than in manufacturing. The Bolton committee estimated that 96 per cent

are often the first to suffer when there is a credit squeeze.

Surveys have emphasized the importance to industry of the innovations which have come from small businesses. The newest electronic technology has enabled many small companies to develop. For an earlier generation of businessmen, plastics performed a similar function.

One of the main motivations for setting up in business is with the prospect of entrepreneurship. Policies which can improve on the methods used by existing companies or when he thinks he can introduce a unique product or process.

For small companies, particularly those which are just starting, finance is critical, because of the inevitable interval between setting up a company and getting paid by customers.

The Confederation of British Industry blames something which it has called "the Aunt Agatha gap" as an important contributor to the decline in small businesses.

This is the family legacy, which was traditionally used for starting new businesses but which has been whittled away by death duties and other taxes.

There is nothing really to take the place of the legacy. Too little is known about how redundancy pay is spent for any firm conclusions to be drawn about it.

Anecdotal evidence suggests that for most recipients it is not little to do more than cushion the period before finding another job.

But a few do use this source to start independent businesses. Others use accumulated savings, help from friends, service stations and the like. Still others build up their businesses gradually while still in full employment elsewhere.

Bank loans are the most common means of augmenting funds and covering delayed payment by customers. Most small business proprietors are heavily dependent on their bank managers. Banks in turn are influenced by the economic climate, and small businesses

are often the first to suffer when there is a credit squeeze.

Finance is by no means the only pressure. Fatigue is a big problem, particularly in the early days of the company. There are no paid holidays or sick leave, and little time off.

The strain on the domestic environment is acute. Bank managers, who probably know more about small businesses than anyone else, usually like to interview the proprietor's wife.

Premises, particularly for manufacturing businesses whose processes may be dirty, noisy or otherwise environmentally undesirable, are a real problem.

BSC (Industry), the job creation subsidiary of the British Steel Corporation, found a need for small workshops when it converted some of its disused steelworks into small business trading estates.

Urban redevelopment has demolished many of the old railway arches, converted stables or back street corners which used to house infant businesses. Conventional industrial trading estates tend to have stringent leasing requirements, and their premises are often too big and too expensive to start a business in. Local authority planning regulations inhibit householders from using their front porches or garages or garden sheds for business purposes.

The breaking point for companies often comes when a move to larger, more costly premises is needed to sustain growth.

At this stage any delay caused by planning authorities, leasing requirements, insurance, transport or a host of other problems can be fatal.

It is not surprising that a high proportion of entrepreneurs cannot stay the pace. Business mortality figures vary, but according to one study more than 70 per cent of all business failures occur within the first 10 years and more than 60 per cent within the first five.

Patricia Tisdall

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ism mixed with self-interest

ig firms offer helping hand

ust social concern, unemployment, inner city areas, but large companies involved, give a helping hand to small business. There is a social purpose, such as the Finance Corporation, GEC, Marks & Spencer, IBM, British Petroleum and BOC.

Each of the companies agreed to contribute about £20,000 a year to cover running costs; but more important is the offer of expert skills either through the seconding of one or two of their staff, or directly through their own administrations.

The aim of the agency is to channel the experience and resources of the sponsoring companies to help both existing small firms and those which are just starting. Besides giving help to Britain's companies to join

with the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry to set up the London Enterprise Agency, which was launched almost a year ago. The companies involved are: IBM, which is assembled by Shell UK, and Barclays Bank, the Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation, GEC, Marks & Spencer, IBM, British Petroleum and BOC.

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Patricia Tisdall

Two thousand delegates show their strength on Capitol Hill

The family shop is as American as motherhood or apple pie

In America nothing is done time, leaving his official plane from those facing the appear to be in the right parson to those encountered by their United States entrepreneurs. The question which should be on the minds of every British small business proprietor, the Conservative Government and especially of its small business minister, Mr David Mitchell, the Under-Secretary of State for Industry, is—why?

Small businesses start in America in much the same way as they do in the United Kingdom. The germ of an idea—the gleam in the entrepreneur's eye—prompts an experiment at first; in the kitchen or in the garage. Gradually it takes over its progenitors' life: the spouse is recruited on to the payroll, and soon over its progenitors' life: the garage is superseded by modest premises near by and sooner or later the entrepreneur goes full about are on a different

survive, the vast majority in the land. Of those which

in political power, pure and simple. Family businesses in the United States are on a par with motherhood and apple pie; they are part of the way of life and the ethos of what is America. They are written into the Constitution.

In the United Kingdom, business is the vogue of one decade, smallness the bandwagon of the next. Here too

the environment is so much said and too little done even though we

know the crucial importance of a powerful political lobby of the United States, as well as in state capitals, the Union of Independent Businesses has more than 600,000 members, a full-time staff of more than 500, of whom 19 are based in Washington, and an annual income of over \$15m. The NFIB quarterly analysis of the United States economy makes counterpart United Kingdom publications look like second-rate do-it-yourself guides to elementary economics. As Mr Dennis, the research director of the NFIB, puts it:

"If you have the information, you can fight the battle; knowledge and power are the two fundamental

But the fault does not lie with either the government or the United States

small business

lobby groups. The Small

Business Bureau has more

than 4,000 members,

the Association of Independent

Businesses has 2,300 (and

more than 25,000 affiliated

through trade associations

links) and the Union of

Independent Companies has

representation in more than

200 constituencies. As a pro

portion of the British small

business lobby, such mem

berships are rare.

Mr Geoff Luce, chief

executive of the SBE, points

out: "So often I have

small business say that

they must not—or dare

not—get involved in poli

tics, but they had better

realise that it is only by

working effectively within a

political system that they

make a fundamental lack of communication facing the problems which

independents are facing. The NFIB has a unique parliamentary role which we see as being complementary to the activities of our fellow pressure groups in this area.

"But like them, we do wish that small businesses would regularly invest even a modest sum each year to fight the battle on their behalf. In this regard they should follow the example set by their American and European counterparts—and even by the British trade union movement."

The problem is that British small businesses just will not come out and fight en masse in the same way.

In the United States, the NFIB can raise havoc at the

federal and state level for the causes in which its members believe. United

being made."

Christopher K

State intervention is sensitive issue

Loan guarantees still hotly debated

Ever since Mr Harold Lever put loan guarantees firmly on the last Labour Government's programme for helping small businesses in April, 1978, the proposal has had a rough ride.

In public the idea has always been at the "consideration" stage but in private there has been fierce opposition from a variety of sources. The basic, relatively simple proposal, has now gone through a series of elaborations to try to make it more palatable to the various parties but still the pro-guarantee lobbyists can hardly claim they are much nearer winning any significant victories.

Loan guarantees would work as follows: a small business which for some reason cannot raise loan capital through the normal banking channels would be able to raise a guaranteed loan through some lending institution. This would be backed by a government guarantee which would reduce or even eliminate any risk to the lender.

This basic skeleton of a plan immediately poses four difficulties: it might tend to encourage lenders to put all their most dubious loan applications into the scheme, thus making it a depository of high-risk "dustbin" loans; it would distort the debt/equity ratio of companies, possibly making the whole small company sector look dangerously overborrowed; it could generate a high rate of bad debts and thus losses for the Government at a time when public spending is being drastically cut elsewhere; and finally, it raises ideological objections from the Tories as it represents a type of intervention in the free market which they are pledged to avoid.

The objection to overborrowing and yet another involving the complexity of administering any such scheme were the first stumbling blocks. Immediately after Mr Lever announced his programme it became clear that there were deeply-rooted Civil Service objections.

Department of Industry officials opposed the plan with the aid of backing from the Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation in the form of evidence to Sir Harold Wilson's committee on the functioning of financial institutions. This argued that other countries were becoming alarmed at the increasing amount of debt in company balance sheets and any system of guarantees would create the same situation here.

This opposition combined with behind-the-scenes doubts—probably emerging at times as outright opposition from the banks—weakened the initial enthusiasm and only cautious ideas for experimentation emerged.

The role of the banks throughout the debate has been crucial though never explicit. The inherent implication of any guarantee scheme is that they have been falling down on their job: if reasonable ventures exist which deserve loan capital why have they not been lending?

The answer probably is the heavy emphasis among British bankers on secured loans. This works when a small businessman has enough security to offer; this often includes his own house. It is no use to a viable business with few assets: a computer software company would be a typical example.

Doubts from the bankers about the viability of or need for any scheme have continued into the present administration and since these doubts hinge on the notion that there ought to be a free market for capital without government intervention they probably now receive a more sympathetic hearing.

However, a substantial number of Conservative small business lobbyists are committed to the idea. They argue that, intervention or not, the possibility of injecting £1,000m or more of new capital into the small company sector and its potential effect on the dole queues cannot be ignored.

So, the pressure was maintained. This resulted in an initiative in November in the form of an entirely new type of scheme devised by two accountants from Price Waterhouse and backed by the Union of Independent Companies.

This scheme initially involved the bank taking on the full risk for 25 per cent of any guaranteed loan—some substantial portion of the risk being taken by the lender has always been accepted as necessary to prevent the plan becoming a loan dustbin—but the real ingenuity concerned the other 75 per cent. This would be guaranteed and could thus become a loan note with the same status as gilt-edged stocks.

So, having made the loan, the bank could then sell off the guaranteed element as loan notes to all the usual investing institutions, which could justifiably claim they

are just one possible way of helping small businesses, others are being both considered and acted upon.

However, the supporters of loan guarantees are continuing to fight energetically. To the faithful it is the surest and quickest way of injecting new life into the whole small business sector and they fear that the preoccupation with guarantees and the discounting of asset values by United Kingdom banks as well as misunderstandings about the effects of the scheme in government and the lending institutions will kill a major institution for the economy.

Bryan Appleyard



Cooperation between a local authority and the GLC has produced these specially built factory-warehouses in Lambeth, accommodating both national companies and new businesses.

No great untapped reservoir of skilled labour

The myth of our inner cities

in the twentieth century, has been fairly small.

Government and local authorities are thus faced with the problem of not so much sustaining, as reversing, economic trends. If inner cities are to become the seedbed of small business growth, incentives are likely to be required on a scale that the eventual results may not justify.

Moreover, policies to date have done little to help matters. Most urban local authorities are traditionally Labour dominated, and post-war redevelopment schemes have concentrated overwhelmingly on housing. Successive Labour and Conservative governments have tilted the scale of subsidies to the point where the use of land for housing has been seen as by far the most attractive option.

Many people looking around at the huge areas of unused land in many British towns and cities, would be in doubt whether the London, may build authorities, even t

authorities are as acute as some local authorities claim. But it is a fact that urban land is excessively expensive. It is consequently difficult for authorities to provide land to the value to the economy.

In a bid to attract business, most of which are under-capitalised, at low densities and at what are likely to prove uneconomic rents. In addition, experience has shown that only a small proportion of so-called industrial premises are in fact being used.

Advocates of inner-city regeneration programmes have often glibly assumed that there are large numbers of potentially skilled workers ready and able to be trained in new techniques. Unfortunately the reverse is usually the case. Historically the towns and cities of the north of England and the Midlands were dominated by large firms employing a mainly unskilled workforce. In the South-east the position was somewhat different, but the harsh fact is that in those areas which give cause for the greatest concern, such as the London docklands, the unemployed consist mainly of dockers and general labourers.

The notion that inner cities contain a great, unexploited reservoir of skilled labour is, Mr Nicholson suggests, a myth. The idea of a tradition of small businesses serving the local community has been greatly exaggerated, and the contribution of such businesses to the settlement.

He accepts that a certain amount of hardship has been suffered by firms which have received in adequate compensation or have experienced delays in

accelerating the death rate of existing ones.

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Equity investments of about £5,000 to £2,000,000 in privately-owned companies

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John Collins, Industrial Liaison Officer, London Borough of Hackney, Economic Development Unit, 111 Hoxton St, London N1 4NL, 01-739 760

CJ 11/10/1980

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Picture the scene:

On the one hand, a man born, bred and hardened in the West Riding, running his own small chemical company.

On the other, a man born, bred and hardened in West Byfleet, running a large investment company somewhere in the City.

The only thing they have in common is money.

One needs it. The other has popped up from the City for the day to see if he can help.

But it's going to take more than the knowledge of the finer points of finance.

Because, financing and also helping smaller businesses is a highly specialised and local affair.

And frankly, no one can help you better than ICFC.

That's because over the years we've dealt exclusively with small businessmen, so we reckon to understand them pretty well.

You'll see what we mean if you contact one of our offices dotted around the country.

Each one is run by a man who knows the area and the people like the back of his hand.

He will understand you and your problems so his advice will always be worth listening to.

More importantly, he may well be able to help you with long-term capital, anything from £5,000 to £2 million or more.

Not bad for a local lad. **ICFC**

"Hello Mr Chalk, I'm Cheese!"



A year after the Wilson report...

Little action to bring much needed encouragement

It is a year since the Wilson committee—set up to review the functioning of financial institutions—presented its interim report on small businesses. Most commentators complained at the time that its potential impact was diminished because the committee found itself unable to make any firm recommendations either about taxation in general or about investment relief in particular.

Since then, little has happened to give the lie to the sceptics and if the final report, which had been expected by now but which has not yet appeared, is not a great deal more positive, those of us who believe that small businesses need real encouragement will have to ignore it.

The committee's recommendations fell into two categories: first, exhortation to banks, government departments, professional organisations and the CBI to do more to disseminate accurate information to small firms about the opportunities available to them, the criteria on which help can be provided and similar matters. There are some grounds for believing that the flow of information and advice has improved in the last 12 months. For example, the Department of Industry has taken steps to strengthen its Small Firms Information Service, and a number of stockbrokers and other financial institutions have taken pains to establish special facilities to help small firms.

Yet the general picture is still one of dismal fragmentation. Within government, Mr. David Mitchel, minister responsible for small business, often Industry, is unaccountable

explains that of the 50 policy objectives which he set himself when he arrived in the Department of Industry, more than 40 are departments. There appears to be no effective machinery for regular meetings between officials responsible for different aspects of small firms' policy.

And outside government the scene is just as gloomy. The various small firms' pressure groups spend more time arguing with one another than organizing the hundreds of thousands of small firms which belong to none of them. There is manifest jealousy, for example, between the CBI and the chambers of commerce, and the goal of a concerted small business lobby seems as far away as ever.

What is required within government, at least, is for a high-powered group of civil servants with appropriate responsibilities to meet regularly on small firms' policy to monitor progress across departments and to report through the civil service responsible for small businesses to a Cabinet committee.

Without such a piece of machinery (which has been used successfully on other occasions) the undoubtedly good will of many towards small businesses will be obscured by every crisis; whether in the outside world or of parliamentary timetabling.

On the committee's other main recommendations little discernible progress has been made. It is true that the Welsh Development Agency is trying, on a tiny scale, an experiment which resembles a loan guarantee scheme. It is, however, typical of the civil service to make it difficult to transfer family pressures of a kind which will make him reluctant to persevere through short-term trouble.

Banks sometimes argue that such a hazard increases a man's commitment to success. It seems far more likely to transfer family pressures of a kind which will put it at a disadvantage. Thus the tax system positively invites pension funds

to expect any further public progress towards a loan guarantee scheme during the run-up to the Budget, but it is already clear that the battle for this recommendation is likely to be hard.

The banks tend to welcome the idea in principle but are unenthusiastic about any attempt to turn it into practice. Many believe that it will be hard to create an effective scheme to be run by them which will not result in their passing all their weakest propositions on to the government securities.

The Government, for its part, is frightened of being asked to provide finance for unsuccessful businesses

which in a tighter market would never start, or of having to apply criteria of such strictness as to make the scheme more expensive than the open market and therefore unattractive.

Such pessimism is not shared by the Conservative Backbench Committee on smaller businesses, which feels that a loan guarantee scheme could be devised which would not cost too much and which could go a long way towards reducing the cost of finance which in Britain is so much higher than in other developed countries". What is needed

is the establishment of a small firms' investment company.

This was an attempt to overcome the difficulties

shared by private investors

in not easily affording

the illiquidity of an investment

in a small unlisted company

and to make it easier for

institutions to invest in

new small companies.

There are technical difficulties

in drafting legislation adequate

to establish such bodies and

it may well be that at the

end of the present govern-

ment review of this propos-

al little will result.

Yet the problem is a

serious one. Other countries

take positive steps to in-

crease the attractiveness of

the small firms sector to in-

vestors. We seem to take

ever possible opportunity

to put it at a disadvantage.

Thus the tax system pos-

tively invites pension funds

Andrew Rowe

It was like Oliver Twist in reverse, Mr Wagstaff...



Wagstaff reflected on the novelty of it all.

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In the day-to-day running of a business only a few firms are fortunate enough to see money coming in always matching money going out. To produce your goods you have to pay for the components from which they are made, i.e. buy raw materials, pay for wages, rent, lighting, heating and so on. However, you won't normally receive payment for the goods until some time after delivery. So it is of the utmost importance to compare the payments flowing in with the payments flowing out. A leaflet on Cash Flow and Liquidity together with a specimen chart indicating the sort of information you need is available from any Williams & Glyn's branch, or if you would care to write to the address below we'll

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Advice and information are vital assets



Mr. Bob Press (left) abandoned the industrial rat-race to become a Somerset blacksmith after training from Cosira technical officer.

In any well-run business, cash-flow and customers are paramount considerations whose importance is equalled only by that of two "invisible assets": advice and information. The need for them can manifest itself in every area of operation from policy formation to obtaining finance.

Now is that need confined to the estimated 100,000 new ventures launched last year; indeed most firms seeking specialist guidance on development or organizational challenges are established concerns with good track-records of growth and prosperity. Moreover, demand is growing as evidenced by the 25 per cent increase in fee income earned by the 2,600 members of the Institute of Management Consultants in

Management Consultants in

present by about 11,000 banks, which have traditionally been reluctant to offer long-term finance to small firms. The money is

now available in the form of loans, equity or a combination of the two, by

businesses which satisfy normal investment criteria.

It means that Cosira can effectively provide access to substantially increased

funds; its clients are directed to the banks, while the council's management accountants are ready to assist small firms in compiling sound budget plans: a valuable service, since more than half of all potentially good ventures fail to gain the required finance because of inadequate presentation.

The ICFC, owned by the English and Scottish clearing banks and the Bank of England, offers practical advice and guidance only on specific areas where the population is declining or which are deprived or disadvantaged in other ways.

Far from being the straw-in-the-hay of the organization of business, Cosira does not succumb to the effects of drop-outs. Mr. Ken Roney, council spokesman, says:

Working closely with local authorities, it is interested solely in assisting viable job-creating enterprises; and the losses on its concessionary-rate loans to private firms—mainly for buildings, plant and equipment—and individually

averaging £10,000—have been less than 1 per cent of the total lent.

The council's spread of technical advisory and loan

services are being used at

change in the attitude of

development Agency, and in

Wales through the Welsh Development Agency.

Where an inquiry is beyond straightforward information sources such as the relevant contact in local authorities, government departments, the professions, chambers of commerce and so forth, it can be discussed confidentially with an experienced businessman in the role of expert counsellor.

A high proportion of inquiries relate to the start of a business but any kind of business administration matter is handled, including statutory requirements, design, marketing, production, diversification and security, all useful for the one-man business.

The Department of Industry has also linked with the Post Office staff superannuation fund to provide a new source of venture capital for small businesses.

Numerous other sources of information and advice exist on the range of discretionary funds, expansion capital, incentives, low-cost

investment, technical

advice and management

development (Industry), the National Research Development Corporation (finance for the development of new products and processes) and the Confederation of British Industry, which operates its own small firms directorate.

Additionally, there are many sources of local help in the shape of groups and clubs backed by councils, firms and business. The Manpower Services Commission sponsors special training courses under the TOPS scheme for people wanting to set up on their own. Polytechnics, technical colleges and further education throughout the country run courses in business studies, many with particular reference to small business.

Overall, the sources of help now available make it much easier for the small man to solve his own problems—something which the Alliance of Small Firms (ASF) wants the Government to let him do more effectively. ASF offers its members a £15-a-year legal aid service, incorporating advice, specialist, including

of industrial relations cases, and legal expenses up to £25,000.

Nicholas Cole

Ways to raise money outside banks

When financial times are tough

Raising money has always been one of the worst problems for the small company, and at a time when interest rates are high and credit is being squeezed it inevitably becomes far worse.

Suppliers, anxious to conserve their cash and well aware that the loss of good will from the occasional small company will make little difference to their own position, tend to exact payment on unfavourable terms. Customers put off settling their bills for as long as possible. And the manager of the small company, caught in the middle, risks a chilly reception if he goes to his bank to ask for a loan to tide him over.

In recent years the clearing banks, in particular, have made a strong effort at head office level to develop and promote the services they provide to small companies. At branch level, however, the picture sometimes looks very different. When times are tough it is easy to find leaders in the hope of drumming up business, it is not a cheap form of finance; but it is simple, flexible, efficient and available.

Where the problem is

so much one of finding the

finance for capital spending

but of securing working

capital, recourse to a factor

may be the answer if the

bank manager will not pro-

vide it and/or overdraft—or, in

some cases, even if he will.

The factor buys a com-

pany's debts, paying initially

up to 80 per cent of the

value of them (less his own

charges), and providing the

remainder of the money

when he, in turn, collects it

from the customer. If

the factor will take over

the administration of the

business, it is a simple busi-

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Information assets

Association draws up code of practice

Franchising means independence with support

There are plans for a catering franchise in rural areas, more than 600 outlets in Britain and 1,100 worldwide, a scheme whose aim would be to introduce in 1984 by J. Lyons & Co. then sold to United Biscuits. First-generation franchising began several centuries ago with the brewer's tied-house system.

The American franchise business format gathered strength in the early 1950s, with the more frequent manifestations of its movement developing its merits to local community content with existing distribution. These companies included Budget Rent-A-Car, Holiday Inn, Service-Master (carpet and curtain-cleaning), and Ziebart (vehicle rust-proofing).

As one of its architects, the BFA under Fried Chicken, Lekin' fame, is one of the most frequently surviving companies, and now more than 270 fast-food outlets in the United Kingdom, the classic

franchise, the franchisee usually pays over a lump sum to begin with.

This varies, but 5 per cent of business could be properly bred", together with a clear delineation of Biblical franchising standards to which the business is

subject to the franchisee.

During the period of the franchise, the franchisee must provide the franchisee with assistance in relation to management, organization, merchandising and staff training, and is entitled to exercise control over the way in which the business is

Practically speaking, ethical franchising offers a proved method for the manufacturer or retailer to multiply his business faster, more economically and with less risk attached. For the investor, there is the opportunity to work independently while still enjoying the support and services of a large organization.

Moreover, he will find that two major uncertainties have been eliminated. First, because of the precise operating procedures involved, he knows the capital he needs to invest, his capital

is reinvested in the business.

The average basic cost of a franchise from BFA members, except Coca-Cola and Holiday Inn, is £7,500, but shopfitting and other costs raise the input requirement to about £15,000, and more than £30,000 for a fast-food franchise. These figures are based on a 1978 BFA survey, now being updated.

Second, because the investor is buying the benefit of the franchisee's knowledge and experience in relation to management, organization, merchandising and staff training, and is entitled to exercise control over the way in which the business is

promoted trade name—his chances of misreading or failing to meet the market potential are considerably reduced.

"Franchising is the easiest method of setting up a franchise, and defined a franchise as a contractual arrangement between two parties, one person and another (the franchisee), which grants to the franchisee a trade allowing him to carry on a particular business under his own name.

The Association has formulated a specific name for the franchisees.

International companies engaged in the distribution of goods and services through independent outlets under franchise or license agreements have

been granted by one person to another (the franchisee).

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We look at the careers of three men who have made good

Success recipe found in kitchen furniture



A youth of seventeen and a half setting up in the building trade with only £45 in cash, an unusual capacity for work, optimism and a quality that could be called stickability might reasonably be said to be establishing a small business. This was how George Moore started in Bingley, in what used to be called the West Riding of Yorkshire, 24 years ago.

George Moore is still in business, still in Yorkshire, near Wetherby, and this year the George A. Moore kitchen furniture group expects to have a turnover of about £22m. It is no longer a small business, but its development is a striking illustration of how one firm has grown from nothing into a leader in its sector.

At the end of that first year as a jobbing builder engaged on local factors' maintenance and household work, Mr Moore had made a profit of £350 on a turnover of £1,020. Over the next few years he gradually built up his business and by 1974 he had six people working for him. It was about that time that Mr Moore experienced what he describes as the first turning point in his business career. He is a man who notices such things and sometimes he turned into lucky accidents.

"I had been working very

hard all this time", Mr Moore recalls. "But one day I caught my hand in a circular saw. The injury was serious enough to keep me off work for two weeks, and it was those two weeks away from the job that gave me time to think. Up to that time I had been working so hard that I had never had time to sit down and plan things. Now I had the time and I decided to make the most of it.

"I gave the past a good deal of thought during those two weeks and I did some careful thinking about what direction I wanted the business to take over the next three years. Today that kind of thing is called corporate planning."

George Moore gave himself a target for the next three years but found that he had reached it after 12 months. "But I had learnt the vital lesson of sitting down and looking to see where you are going and I decided that the time had come for me to get out of my working overalls and concentrate on managing and planning."

It was at this time that Mr Moore moved into his first real premises.

Further expansion then came through buying up equipment and plant from other firms that had been put into receivership.

But it was another

unforeseen factor, or as Mr Moore puts it, a lucky accident, that caused a more significant expansion.

"Well, it was quite by accident", he recalls, "that I met the manager of the Bradford Corporation works department. I didn't know him but he let me know that he was seeking someone to make kitchen-sink drainer boards for Bradford council houses. That one is worth an estimated £5m.

George Moore's group is now the biggest supplier of kitchen furniture to local authorities and housing associations in the country. Its share of the market is 30 per cent of all kitchen furniture for both new houses and for modernization schemes. A comparatively recent development has taken the group into the retail and export trade supplying both the home market and, so far, 30 countries abroad.

What, then, is George Moore's recipe for success? The answer comes promptly: "I used to work 28 hours a day and eight days a week but I've cut it down to only 20 hours a day lately". It is a pardonable exaggeration for a man who so readily attributes much of his success to luck. In any case it is self-made luck, the kind that is created by hard work and a flair for grasping opportunities whenever they arise.

There is another factor, too, which George Moore insists is the vital one: "It has been very much a team affair and it still is. All our executives are highly qualified in their own spheres whether it is marketing, engineering or accountancy. But it doesn't stop there: I expect every executive to develop as a man of business, capable of using his common sense at all times. It would not be easy to think of a better description to apply to George A. Moore himself.

Alan Grainge

Another development occurred in 1971 when Mr

Moore's firm won its first contract to supply kitchen furniture to the London Housing Consortium, which is responsible for the needs of the member London boroughs as well as many housing associations.

"That was a contract worth just over £1m and it was the first of its kind to go to a firm north of Potters Bar", Mr Moore says.

He has reason for satisfaction because the link with London housing has continued. A three-year contract came to an end last month and another for the same period has just been awarded to supply kitchen furniture for more than 30,000 homes in the London area. That one is worth an estimated £5m.

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According to his wife,

when he woke suddenly on

May. Instead he is still working and enjoying it, which is not too difficult when your home is in the factory grounds, and overlooks Exmoor.

At Wheedon Cross, near Minehead, Somerset, he and his son, David William

Period mouldings rescued firm whose boat-building hit rocks



1979; however, he and his son had already done some work on reproduction period and antique guttering, and pipes for renovating old churches, stately homes, castle and colleges.

"The Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas organized publicity in the architectural and trade press", Mr Briggs said, "and from there business boomed, with 600 inquiries in one week. You never know what you are going to get in the post. We have had letters from Ireland and the Continent."

These reproductions can be copied from existing cast-iron work, including decoration and colour. Among the customers have been two Oxford colleges, Warwick town hall and Dunster Castle. Two subcontractors have been enlisted to cope with the market disintegrating in

Until then, a great deal of

time had been spent in

producing glass fibre sailing

boats. In Mr Briggs's words

this market disintegrated and

he had to find a new market.

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HER MARX NOR CONFUCIUS

the Chinese constituted a short life: it is 20 years since the 1st constitution pro-freeedom of speech, the press, and ways in which opinions were aired, including the people. These now to be as formal, following February by the party's little. This week's ion of the standing of the National Congress has decreed cancellation.

the live and control of political freedom has brought a change in weighty as a conquest at least an China as to how should be managed the state. Furthermore, it is an unresolved the present leader the only available version to a Lenin-imposed discipline. from freedom has as was the first given to it, are for doubt about character which led to the problems post-Maoist transi-

itions are obvious themselves. There was alement within the much concentrations had proved disipes for economic Deng Xiaoping and illated men want the nation's attention objective. They thing will be possible country without ince. In so far as ting to the whole tost revolutionary arm is relaxation,

lessening of political tension, and an end to class struggle and wasteful and destructive political campaigns. This decisive break with Maoist political puritanism was urgently necessary and has been generally welcomed. At the same time the legacy of the cultural revolution and the factional struggles which followed it until the moment of Mao's death and even beyond had brought the country to an appalling state of chaos and indiscipline. The less urgent task for the incoming administration was to restore the authority of the party, to regain effective control over the provinces and to get China working again in an atmosphere of mutual trust.

Relaxation, it was hoped, would end quarrelling and banish fear of political error; restored authority would unite the country behind the economic drive. Unfortunately the simultaneous pursuit of such potentially discordant objectives has proved difficult. What happens when the wall posters attack the new leadership? When under-ground newspapers question the Socialist system? When the "new" China created by the Chinese Communist Party is attacked outright for being founded on falsehood?

The present generation of party leaders can react only in accordance with their own experience over the past half century. Our come all the Leninist phrases—"democratic centralism", "dictatorship of the proletariat"—and out goes an article introduced too hurriedly into the constitution when relaxation was paramount, an article which is now found to be an embarrassment.

Behind this immediate response lies a much larger area of self-questioning on the part of rulers and ruled. In so far as Chinese civilization has one con-

trary, however. As an article on another page shows, relations between police and public in Kirkby are in a state where rumours of feuds and cover-ups can flourish. On a national level, the result may allay, but cannot dismiss, the concern over the fact that 245 people have died in police custody in the past decade. The police can justifiably claim that both the local and the national misgivings are fed to some extent by prejudice and malice. But both in their different ways represent real challenges to the maintenance of a healthy relationship between the police and the public they serve, and it would be unwise to attempt to bluster them away, as some representatives of the police are inclined to.

The local problem is an acute instance of the obstacles the police face in many depressed city areas. Successful policing anywhere depends largely on whether the police are seen as acting on behalf of the community itself, rather than as a hostile force not to be trusted or helped. Entrenched attitudes cannot be changed overnight, and the Merseyside police are already putting much effort into programmes to win goodwill in the area, especially among the young. But these efforts are wasted if resources are insufficient for the police most in contact with the public to be experienced and to be present in adequate numbers.

The national problem is an aspect of the perennial conundrum of police accountability. Two internal police inquiries did little to reassure public opinion about the Kelly case, because the police are not fully trusted as judges in their own cause in sensitive cases; yet only the police are equipped to carry out much of the necessary investigatory work. The police, knowing that their standards of conduct are on the whole extremely high, are too apt to feel that concern about such matters indicates a desire to undermine civil order, or an excessive libertarianism indifferent to that risk. In fact the police have, and deserve, the support and sympathy of most of the community. But that support cannot be given blindly. The light shed by open, rigorous and impartial investigations of allegations like those made in the Kelly case is the best safeguard for the relationship.

LESSONS OF THE KELLY CASE

pens, much of the rding the death in of James Kelly, hly been the sub is public concern, ut to be less dis t had seemed once the bright light of our. Eye witness the arrest became Mr Kelly's medical n to be vulner understandings sur series of patho were cleared up. verdict does not e police used no telly: the evidence tables themselves that they had. The tifully use reason here necessary to st, and the coroner t that if that was death, a verdict of would be appro venture was the heart failure, acute id exertion cited as of death. No new t at the inquest t the case warrants ruiting of a public

t may not prevent from entering local victim of police

in the past, the police force to an influx of such refugees, the greater is the condemnation of the society which does not permit them to live in freedom in the first place.

But for the Saiper of Antibes to quote in his letter the Government of Vietnam as one which "lets its people go", when in fact it massacred large numbers of its people and drove the people into exile or death, is a parody of the truth of which even an eminent writer of fiction should feel ashamed.

Yours faithfully,

NICHOLAS BAKER, House of Commons.

April 15.

NG WALES TO KEEP HER LANGUAGE

the Government's adding money on the ge Mr Nicholas Ed Secretary of State, a suggestion that he to "recent events", cottage arson and alites in connection with these are to be accepted: r evidence of a long-gestation. Nevertheless support for the language and "recent Wales have a bearing on it. A people language is only half the famous phrase Davis (Irishman). A some consciousness the institutions of and with language is likely to be resentances that diminish its any Welshmen are so few do not confine ment to the lawful annals of speaking, sang, organizing, lo voting. They commit criminal acts. Their

changes

4. Walker

o many articles and man-made climatic spin Tickell's article is the impression that human activity of carbon dioxide isotope. Yet again the dramatic consequences of pollution have been

er covers nearly three-quarters of the globe. here is everywhere in that water, and the atmosphere are coupled and reciprocally. Evaporation from the accounts for most of the in the atmosphere, thermal exchanges at the undary, airborne salt derived from sea spray condensation nuclei, and a circulations of the largely wind-driven.

Welshmen who deplore the eclipse of their language see it as a victim of English-American cultural aggression, mounted most effectively through the television tube. They have fixed on the possibility of a counter-attack. They saw an opportunity in the allocation of the fourth television channel. They thought they had a promise, first from the Labour Government and then in the latest Conservative party manifesto. They were going to be given a Welsh television service in which programmes in the Welsh language would be concentrated. Now they have learned that the Government has changed its mind and, with a parade of good reasons, they are offered something else instead.

The reasons may be good (they will certainly seem so to the Treasury), and the ambition of beating off metropolitan television by means of an all-Welsh option was probably doomed to failure anyway. But that is not the point. Welsh cultural-nationalism feels cheated. It has reason to feel cheated. It will accordingly be more difficult to accommodate.

Now, man uses the world ocean as a dump. Many tens of millions of tons of a multiplicity of domestic, agricultural and industrial wastes reach the sea each year, either directly or by fallout from the atmosphere. The annual influx of oil alone might be as much as five million tons; and oil may be particularly significant, because many oils spread into extremely thin films, so that vast areas of the sea surface become coated with a film at least one molecule thick.

What physical processes of climatic importance are affected by oceanic pollution? First, oil films reduce evaporation. Second, oil subdues the short waves which winds catch upon to drive the ocean currents. Third, contamination of the sea surface reduces the availability of salt particles by reducing the speed with which tiny droplets of sea water are ejected into the atmosphere when small bubbles in the water burst. Fourth, the transmissivity of contaminated water is

less than that of clear water. Thus, it is conceivable that by contaminating the oceans extensively mankind is modifying significantly atmospheric circulations and rhythms.

Unfortunately, the amount of such modifications cannot at present be calculated accurately because understanding of atmospheric mechanics is insufficient and knowledge of concentrations, extents and persistence of the various marine pollutants inadequate. However, in general terms, the chief consequence of extensively restraining evaporation from the ocean surface and reducing the availability of sea salt nuclei in the atmosphere should be a tendency for rainfall amounts to decrease in all latitudes.

Yours faithfully,

J. M. WALKER,
20 Crystal Glen,
Heath,
Cardiff.
April 8.

United States dilemma over the hostages in Iran

From Sir William Hayter

Sir, It is not difficult to imagine what the American reaction would have been if the hostages had been in the British, rather than in the American Embassy in Tehran. The United States Government would have given us strong diplomatic support, at the United Nations and elsewhere. But if it had come to a question of imposing sanctions we should have been asked whether acquiescing in the detention of fifty British diplomats, however deplorable, was not a lesser evil than driving Iran into the arms of Russia, alienating the Third World, damaging the economies of West Germany and Japan and perhaps running the risk of a war that nobody wanted. Meanwhile the American press would be muttering angrily about pulling British chestnuts out of the fire.

In this hypothetical situation, the Americans would be perfectly right to take this line. In the actual situation, should we not be right to take a similar line? Iran's treatment of the American hostages is abominable, and American resentment of it is entirely understandable. But if it is not at all clear that sanctions will be effective for the hostages, then the assumptions suggested above they are likely to do more harm than good in other respects. If we really feel this, we should say so to Washington. We are not in the kind of alliance that exists in Eastern Europe, where the rule is "my leader, right or wrong". If we think one leader is wrong, we should say so, and not half.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM HAYTER,
Bassett House,
Stanton St John,
Oxford.

From Mr George Cunningham, MP for Islington South and Finsbury (Labour)

Sir, Many nations are casting around for appropriate sanctions to take against Iran for the illegal treatment of American diplomats in Tehran. There is surely one response peculiarly appropriate to the offence.

The laws attaching to the exchange of diplomatic representatives are either reciprocal or they are nothing. They are embodied in the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 1961, a convention negotiated by all states at a conference under the auspices of the General Assembly of the United Nations in that year. It is not only the United States which has an interest in enforcing the law of that Convention. Every nation should see, and privately does see, that diplomatic relations must be conducted according to law and that this is prejudiced by the massive breach of the Convention being perpetrated in Tehran. The Soviet Union took a very active part in the

Exodus of dissenters

From Mr Nicholas Baker, MP for Dorset, North (Conservative)

Sir, The Western world is by now accustomed to political potshots in your columns from Mr Graham Greene (April 12).

Of course it is right to say that signatories of the Helsinki Agreement had in mind the protection of minority groups when they took the position that governments should not prohibit individual dissenters from leaving if they wished to do so.

But the larger point which the Helsinki Agreement was intended to establish is that signatory countries are expected to respect the human rights of their citizens. It is only in countries, typically the Soviet Union, where human rights are not generally respected that there are large numbers of citizens wishing to leave. The greater the embarrassment free countries of the West suffer from an influx of such refugees, the greater is the condemnation of the society which does not permit them to live in freedom in the first place.

But for the Saiper of Antibes to quote in his letter the Government of Vietnam as one which "lets its people go", when in fact it massacred large numbers of its people and drove the people into exile or death, is a parody of the truth of which even an eminent writer of fiction should feel ashamed.

Yours faithfully,

NICHOLAS BAKER, House of Commons.

April 15.

A day for labour

From Mr S. E. Wilkins

Sir, The TUC's incitement of workers to withhold their labour on May 14 will, of course, do nothing to deflect the Government from the economic course they have set out and Len Murray has rightly condemned as acting in the most irresponsible manner since the last election. His call is bound to disrupt the country's business quite seriously.

If, as Len Murray insists, the sole object of the exercise is to make a gesture of trade union solidarity against the Government's economic policies, perhaps he ought to be asked to explain why this cannot take place on what seems to be the most appropriate day, Labour Day.

Yours truly,
SYDNEY E. WILKINS,
Flat 2, 19 Marlborough Road,
Richmond,
Surrey.

April 9.

Attribution of drawings

From Mr Eric Hebborn

Sir, Re Geraldine Norman's article "Art establishment rumpus boils up over drawings thought fakes" of March 3: the case of the drawings that have passed through my hands, and whose attributions have been doubted, raises some interesting questions that few appear willing to discuss. The newspapers seem far too interested in exaggerating Professor Blunt's negligible part in the matter, and to show that I am a brilliant draughtsman, to ask to what extent the dealers and ex-

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

United States dilemma over the hostages in Iran

1961 conference and was more inconsistent than other participants on the total "untouchability" of diplomatic missions.

It was quite simply absurd that for many months the embassy of Iran in Washington should have gone on enjoying diplomatic protection while the US embassy in Iran was the subject of the most outrageous offence against the law of diplomatic relations in modern times. The Americans would have been justified in taking reciprocal action rather than expelling the Iranians. It is only slightly less offensive that Iranian missions in other countries, including our own, should continue to be accorded the protection of a treaty which their own country breaches.

In view of the repercussions of Iran's behaviour for the international community as a whole, an emergency conference should be called by the UN General Assembly with a view to concluding an agreement terminating the right of Iranian missions to diplomatic protection indefinitely. Many nations might accept this measure who would not support economic sanctions.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE CUNNINGHAM,
House of Commons.
April 15.

From Mr Leslie Tentler

Sir, It is not true that the hostage crisis in Iran is a less important test of the Western alliance than Afghanistan, and for three reasons

First, rational international relations cannot be conducted if the safety of diplomatic personnel is not guaranteed by host governments. Mr Carter's inability to elicit a prompt and convincing response from his European partners only increases the already great chance of this shameful episode being repeated—and not necessarily with American hostages—in the near future. The world, after all, is full of unstable countries with weak governments.

Second, the failure of Europe to support the United States, especially in the wake of the weak reaction to Afghanistan, will only confirm to the Soviets their evident belief that the Western alliance can no longer act to protect its vision of a reasonably stable world order. What greater temptation to further Soviet adventures in the Middle East? And third, the Iranian crisis represents a genuine threat to world peace. Afghanistan, a country which was not under American protection and had effectively fallen under Soviet control, without much fuss from the West, two years before?

Experience of the "unwritten law" tells us that nothing can now be done about Afghanistan, any more than about Czechoslovakia or the Berlin Wall. Thanks largely to events in Iran, the Russians have gained a tactical advantage worth much more than Western participation in the Olympic Games. Iran remains more important than Afghanistan, since continuing American patience and European dilliance must still be interpreted in the same way in Moscow. If the Tehran hostages are finally liberated by a Russian invading force, who is the better for that?

Yours faithfully,
RODERICK BEATON,
36 High Meadow Road,
King's Norton,
Birmingham.

April 15.

Meeting of faiths

From Rabbi David Goldberg

Sir, As a Jew whose maternal grandparents were East End immigrants and whose paternal forebears hardly came over with William the Conqueror either, I can well understand Islamic reaction to *Death of a Princess*. Those of us sufficiently secure (yes, it only takes a few years to acculturate as a patriotic citizen while still retaining one's religious identity) to have found it a fascinating, not unsympathetic programme, tend to forget that any ethnic minority is especially sensitive and defensive. British Muslims today face the same tensions, threats to their family cohesiveness and erosion of their religious orthodoxy, which European Jewish immigrants faced and overcame at the turn of the century. The English are probably the most tolerant, least religious people on earth, which on the one hand helps to integrate the foreigner, but on the other hand tempts him away from his traditions with the blandishments of easy-going secular culture.

There are over one million Muslims in Britain today, more than twice the number of Jews. Certain low-level communication does exist between Judaism, Christianity and Islam. My congregation, for example (the Liberal Jewish Synagogue, St John's Wood) recently held a series of successful inter-faith meetings with our local church and the Regent's Park Mosque. This contact with the impressively able and outward-looking people who run the Islamic Centre has encouraged us to seek further ways in which the three religions can be of practical help to each other by a sharing of experience.

Yet these and similar efforts are hardly enough, at a time when community tension can be exacerbated as much by religious as by colour differences. For forty years the

Farmers and consumers

From Mr John Chaloner

Sir, Your leading article on "Farmers and Consumers" (April 12) might be likened to the way our cows are grazing the new grass—ranging widely and avoiding the unpalatable parts. British farmers' incomes are now at their lowest level for many years, in real terms by 26.5 per cent compared with 1977 (ministry figures). In this country we still spend over £200m a year on butter imports alone and £150m on cheese from other EEC members.

This situation cannot make sense for farmers or consumers alike. Other unpalatable features of the common agricultural policy and monetary compensation amounts include the very low-interest rate loans available to other EEC farmers, and several other forms of subsidy that we do not enjoy.

The problem from our farmyard can be seen most simply thus: a new tractor this year cost three times its price five years ago. The price of our products to those who made the tractor have barely doubled.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN CHALONER,
Dudson Farm,
Cross-in-Hand,
Heathfield,
Sussex.

April 14.

Marketing

From Mr David Green

Sir, Those who elevate themselves to a position of moral judgment commonly predict doom if their particular moral fetish is affronted; and babble about the world with the accuracy of their prophecy if evolving events do not conform to parallel the evils they have predicted. David Holbrook (April 11) obviously belongs to a long line of such seers to whom cause and effect—as with those who associate masturbation with deafness—are no more than emotional convenience.

There are simpler explanations in the violence of youth. The mob and the crowd are notoriously more violent than the individuals who comprise it; biological species of all kinds become more savage in overcrowded conditions; young people will burn their energy whatever the circumstances. But if circumstances do not allow them to dissipate it constructively, then they will surely use it destructively.

One suspects that the rationales of those who seek to explain social disorder in terms of a sinful society would change rather rapidly if they lived in a tower block or slum tenement in an inner city area.

Yours faithfully,

DAVID GREEN,
Rhod yr Harding,
Castle Morris,
Nr Haverfordwest,
Pembrokeshire.

April 11.

Secret ballots for strike action

From Mr John Browne, MP for Winchester (Conservative)

Sir, I have put down for discussion and I hope selection and acceptance, for the Report Stage of the Employment Bill in the Commons, an amendment to provide for secret ballots before and after any decision is reached for disruptive action in support of any industrial demand.

I have endeavoured to make this provision as acceptable as possible to everyone concerned in an industrial dispute and I have particularly sought to extract from it any party political element. I firmly believe that it is a measure that is in the national interest and would be welcomed by industrial employees.

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

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Editor, page 19

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they would join.

Chase Manhattan Bank cuts its prime rate to 19³/₄ per cent

From Anthony Hilton
New York, April 16

Chase Manhattan, America's
third largest bank, cut its prime
rate from 20 per cent to 19³/₄
per cent today. The move
caused an immediate boom in
the bond markets where it was
read as the first clear sign that
interest rates are beginning to
come down.

But the dollar, which has
drawn strength from the high
interest rates in recent weeks
fell sharply against all major
currencies. It was quoted at
1.85¹² against the Deutsche
mark, down from 1.89 and at
2.22 against the pound. At the
end of last week it was 2.18.

News that Chase had cut what
is effectively the minimum it
charges industrial borrowers for
loans also bought life back to
Wall Street. Activity picked up
singly from recent depression
low levels and share
prices across the board showed
modest gains.

The cut in rates has been
caused by two separate develop
ments. Industrial output
dropped for the second suc
cessive month, and the fall of
0.8 per cent was much more
than analysts had expected.

This reinforced the belief that
the American economy is moving
rapidly into recession.

On a technical level rates in
the certificates of deposit mar
ket, which is where the banks
themselves have been forced to
turn for funds, dropped sharply
on Tuesday—six month CDs fall

ling from 16.70 to 16.35 per
cent. Falling CD rates generally
lead fairly quickly to falls in
prime rate.

Opinion is still divided on
whether the Chase move is the
beginning of a trend. The bank
stressed that it was responding
purely to current conditions
and that there was no guarantee
that its next move would
also be down. While three small
regional banks followed the
Chase lead and cut rates, its
major competitors sat tight at
20 per cent.

They may be forced lower
soon, however, as the drop in
CD rates has continued. "Three
month rates are down to 16.60,
and we could justify prime rates
easily below 19 per cent", Mr
Robert Sinche, an economist
with brokers Bear Stearns said.

His firm expects the prime to
drop to 11 per cent by the
year end, but for the next three
months rates will fall "only
gradually".

"We expect some residual
loan demand which will prop up
rates. Also the banks' profits
were hurt on the upswing. They
want to make some of that back
so they are not going to rush
to lower rates", he said.

The dollar fell sharply in
Europe on news of the cut in
prime rates. It closed nearly
three cents down against the
pound at \$2.2150. Sterling's
effective exchange rate was up
0.1 percentage points at 22.8
per cent of its 1971 level. Gold
rose \$42 to close at \$529.50.

Strike may halt all bank clearance operations

By David Felton
Labour Reporter

Banking operations through
out the country could be
seriously disrupted today if
employees working in a crucial
computer centre decide to take
a sympathetic strike action over
a pay dispute.

The dispute, which involves
68 messengers working at
National Westminster Bank's
City offices spread yesterday to
other banks, and the messen
gers' union said last night
that its members at Bankers
Automated Clearing Services at
Edgware, north London, were
considering walking out.

BACS is wholly owned by the
main English clearing banks
and handles the processing of
documents and cheques for
clearing. If the men who are
mainly engineers walk out
the Banking Insurance and
Finance Union said the clearing
of cheques would

possibly come to a halt.

After a one-day strike at
NatWest on April 1, the action
started again on Tuesday and
continued yesterday when BISU
members at Lloyds Bank's
computer centre, Midland Bank's
clearing office, Standard Char
tered Bank and Barclays Bank
International joined the strike.

Yesterday's escalation of the
action was authorized by Mr
Leif Mills, union general secre
tary, who said that it was up to
individuals at BACS to decide
whether they wanted to take
action, but if they did the union
would give them official sup
port.

The dispute is over a pay
claim for messengers at Nat
West which would give them
a larger federal, and the
minimum pay of unskilled main
tenance workers. The bank has
con

cerned the government and
the federal bank are deter
mined to bring inflation down
from the present 5.8 per cent
to 4.5 per cent which was set as
a target in the annual report
on the economy three months
ago.

He said that Germany's bal
ance of payments on current
account, which is expected to
show a deficit of at least
DM20,000m (54,878m) this year,
will not return towards equi
librium quickly as it did after the
oil crisis of 1973/4.

German industry could not
expect another explosive in
crease in its exports to the

member states in the Organiza
tion of Petroleum Exporting

Countries as occurred after the
first oil crisis because inter
national competition was now
more intense and the OPEC
members had decided to slow down
their development programmes.

He predicted that German in
dustry would be exposed to
much greater competitive pres
sure from the newly industrial
izing countries.

Developments at the Hanover
Fair will be watched closely to
see whether Graf Lambsdorff's

generally optimistic view of

Germany's economic prospects
will be borne out. The fair

which has long been regarded

as a barometer of German

economic activity, has opened

on a generally positive note.

New orders for German in
dustry from home and abroad
have risen sharply in the first
quarter of this year. Overall
oil output was 16 per cent

higher in February compared
with the same month last year
and export orders rose by one
fifth despite the increase in

international tensions.

In general there is little evi
dence of an impending down
turn in the economy, although
the Finance Ministry in Bonn
is already concerned that the
country's recession in the United
States is bound to wash over

into the Federal Republic.

PO chief denies rift led to resignation

By Kenneth Owen

Sir William Barlow, whose
forthcoming resignation as
chairman of the Post Office was
announced on Tuesday, yesterday
denied that he had had any
row with the Government.

"There have been no rows and
where," he said in a statement.

"It is simply that, having
completed planning work for
the separation of the postal and
telecommunications businesses
this summer, it is a convenient
time for me to announce my
return to the private sector."

The Government in fact
tried to persuade me to stay and
accept appointments as
chairman of British Telecommunications.

I cannot repeat how
strongly that there has been
no specific incidents leading to
my decision, which was care
fully considered over a period
of time."

Mr John Whyte, deputy
managing director of Post
Office Telecommunications, also
referred to the forthcoming
separation of the postal and
telecommunications businesses.

Speaking at a communications
conference in Birmingham, Mr
Whyte said the nature of the
posts and telecommunications
businesses was so different that
different styles of management
were required.

The group was set up as an
informal lunch club by Sir
Alfred Robens in the mid 1960s
and it has been steadily growing
in influence. It now represents
nearly all the public sector
corporations and boards with 22
members; the most recent mem
ber being Mr Ronald Utting,
chairman of the British National
Oil Corporation.

So, if Sir William does not
depart until September, Sir
Francis Tombs, chairman of the
Electricity Council, would be
next in line. If the resignation
takes effect before Sir Derek
Ezra as chairman-elect would
take over.

The postal business was neces
sarily highly labour-intensive

and the telecommunications
business was highly capital
intensive and totally dependent
on the most advanced techn
ology.

Comparing the two busi
nesses, Mr Whyte said the
labor cost for the postal ser
vice was 75 per cent of
revenue, compared with 41 per
cent for telecommunications;

capital spending was three per
cent of revenue compared with
31 per cent and the net capital
assets added in 1979 amounted to
£34m for posts and £996m for
telecommunications.

It is therefore increasingly
anachronistic to artificially con
strain such disparate enter
prises to operate within the
same commercial entity", Mr
Whyte said. He gave a warning of
the dangers which could
accompany the Government's
decision to consider amending
the Post Office's monopoly
relating to the supply of per
ipheral equipment.

This could possibly benefit
some customers through a
wide range of apparatus which
could be linked with the public
network, Mr Whyte admitted.

But there were great risks that
service to the customer might
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the benefits will outweigh the
disadvantages", he said.

Apart from Clegg Com
munity awards public sector
pay increases since August
have differed little from the private
sector.

The CBI said: "One trend
that has emerged in recent
weeks is the increasing impor
tance of company profits as an
influence on pay settlements.

"In nearly half of the settle
ments recently reported to the
data bank profits have been
cited as exerting a very impor
tant downward pressure on
settlements compared with
about two-fifths of earlier
returns.

"This suggests that ability
to pay is exerting a pro
gressively stronger influence on the
level of settlements as the
current negotiating period
proceeds."

that the new syndicate would
have to offer dangerously low
premiums to fulfil anything
like that total.

The view held by officials in
the London market is that the
new syndicate will have only
a very slight impact initially.

This is supported by comments
attributed to Kuwaiti officials to
the effect that undercutting the
western market could lead to a
flood of dubious risk business

pouring into the Gulf.

The Muslim prohibition of
usury has not stopped the
growth of insurance in Middle
Eastern industry but the view
that it is wrong to take a
gamble on Allah's will has led
to little growth in what western
insurers regard as "bread-and
butter" business such as life

insurance.

Last night Lloyd's conceded
that the move was probably
prompted by the London mar
ket.

However, over capacity in
world markets is already so
high and rates at such low levels

Richard Allen

Government must abandon economic policy in favour of reflation Cambridge economists say

By John Whitmore

The Government's economic policy is
leading Britain into an unprecedented
recession and will have to be abandoned,
preferably in favour of a programme of
reflation, devaluation and import controls,
according to the Cambridge Economic
Policy Group.

The group gives a warning that on
present policies, gross domestic product

will fall by 8 per cent between 1979 and
1981 with unemployment topping 2.5 million and British industry severely
weakened. None of this would necessarily
lead to a significantly lower inflation rate.

The immediate consequences of such a
reversal of policy would be a fall in the
reintroduction of exchange controls, a
less restrictive target for the public

sector borrowing requirement and almost
certainly another incomes policy aimed
at preventing an exchange rate/price/

wage spiral.

Specifying its objections to government
policy in more detail, the review says that
the combination of a restrictive domestic
policy and seriously overvalued exchange
rate could lead to a severe fall in
domestic output, given ever-in

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

RTZ shows its paces

ce houses are no longer quite animals they were in the late 1970s following the widening of interests, particularly into the

ou would always draw this contrast the way stockmarket sentiment ares dancing faithfully to the line, as has been the case over with sharp falls following levels prices were pushed up if the boom in gold and copper first quarter of this year.

bably the least exposed of the United Kingdom houses to a any one commodity with its metals interests and the of its industrial side over the years. In the event the group with 1979 figures that more the strength of the shares. After a jump to £61.6m in the first attributable profits—always the pure at RTZ given the size of shareholders in its major second half has been almost attributable earnings up to £149.8m.

bout a tenth higher than ours, already downgraded to take a dilution of its interest in CRA its issue, which combined with dividend increase of a quarter pushed the shares 15p higher today. Part of the discrepancy deferred tax treatment which year's profits by £8.6m or some

the results from the quoted 'alabora, CRA and Rio Algomn, the surprises appear to have unquoted groups which now most half RTZ's profits.

side produced same again round £30m despite worries United States recession while in RTZ Industries was 27 id. But the wild card appears.

Rossing where uranium proto into full swing in the second

coy about revealing its precise but it probably chipped in helping to offset a duller year still smarting from the loss of a Valley Authority uranium

ceptional first quarter already RTZ looks set for another its year though not of the same 9. Yielding 5½ per cent and 6 times prospective earnings would look good value if shares had not had their day

ddleby term

ICE

n the thick of the engineering rent woes, Hawker Siddeley's setback of 9 per cent to £108m not look too disappointing. Following for the first-time contribution from Carlton Industries and Vestlinghouse, the underlying was more like a fifth. And the Canadian operations lifted up 50 per cent to £21.6m on booming railway equipment in United Kingdom operations a awful time.

diesel business was particularly the problems in Iran and a downturn of around £23m in the engineering strike is have cost some £7m.

however, held steady at 184p in the view that despite the ok for engineers generally over years, the worst could be over worker is concerned. Order books up reasonably well, while some can be expected in diesels after moves last year. Without a 1st year's strike profits could to around the £120m mark for p of less than 8.

an increase of less than 7 per ng a yield of 6.2 per cent hardly market and nor did the reveal a strict CCA adjustment the could be less than 1½ times

But Hawker remains one of the few companies in the sector with the balance sheet strength and product spread to inspire genuine long-term confidence.

Burmah Oil After the recovery

It was pretty obvious at the interim stage, when Burmah paid its first dividend in five years, that the group was doing well—but not how well. In the event pre-tax profits are up from £17.13m to £67.34m; and while there is an exceptional £13m in that (relating to past provisions, now clawed back, against agreements with Pertamina and others), the signs are that this year's profits will be better still.

The improvement has come in several areas. First, the contribution from the Thistle stake is more than doubled, at £13m; and since Thistle has not yet reached its peak there will be more to come from this source over the coming two years. Then the shipping losses (before allowing for recovery of the Pertamina provisions) are down from just under £23m to £8.5m—thanks to a reduction in the number of vessels (now down to 15), and better rates in the tanker market last year.

In addition the contribution from Castrol and the other downstream activities is sharply improved, perhaps by as much as £15m, thanks to higher demand and better margins on the petrol station forecourts.

In the short-term a further improvement in shipping is unlikely, though the group is sufficiently confident about the future to put the emphasis now on employing the fleet, rather than getting rid of it. Moreover, Castrol and the other downstream activities may suffer a setback this year, as margins are squeezed. With more to come from Thistle, however, pre-tax profits are unlikely to fall short of £70m, and could be a lot higher. And the principal question for shareholders is what the group is going to do with it.

A better than expected final dividend—which puts the shares, at 22p, on a yield of 4.4 per cent—suggests that shareholders' short-term needs will not be neglected; but the longer-term future for the company is still somewhat obscure. Now that the excitement of recovery is out of the way, the shares are unlikely to go anywhere in particular until a new sense of direction is established.

W. H. Smith Non-trading upsets

W. H. Smith has a knack of surprising the market. As late as last November at the time of the interim figures it was suggesting that if Christmas trade was good the results for the full year would be good too. In fact the retailing side of the business would have done reasonably well in what was a tough year for retailers, but W. H. Smith came a cropper on non-trading activities and it is this that led to the pre-tax profits of 7.8 per cent to £18.6m on sales that rose 20 per cent to £571m.

Taking into account the increase in interest paid, property sales and foreign exchange losses the adverse turnaround is no less than £5.7m. Last March Smiths paid £12m for LCP Homecentres of which £8m was goodwill and while the company has done as well as expected with a £1.1m contribution to profits there was the inevitable fall in liquidity after such an acquisition. But Smiths is very pleased about moving into the do-it-yourself market and expects good growth in the future.

On the retail side the two dark areas have been the wholesaling division both here and in the United States, and records sales although the problems are being tackled apparently successfully.

Smiths has more going for it this year. Overall, while the rest of the retail trade is going to go through a bad patch, Smiths should be bouncing back to around £22m. But it is a moot point whether the shares, down 15p yesterday, are going to find much following in the months ahead standing on a yield of only 4.4 per cent and a fully taxed p/e ratio of 13, if property sales are stripped out.

Business Diary: Boys' own jobs



for the working of Government if people with outside experience, especially industrial experience, were able to come in at a higher level.

"I don't wish to knock the Civil Service, I think it is a public service which should be open to ability and experience outside of Whitehall, and should not be treated as a closed monastic order."

There are those who feel the plan may be resurrected, though it would be certain to meet stiff opposition once again from the highest levels of the service.

One of those involved in the initial negotiations—not Donoghue—said: "When Callaghan first came up with the idea, the permanent secretaries rounded on him to a man."

"It would be good

to Canada Dry, the wholly-owned Bass subsidiary, has come up with a novel way of producing a soft drink which tastes uncannily like lager.

The firm has persuaded Bass to brew real lager and then remove the alcohol content. The result, inexplicably called Barbican, tastes exactly like the real thing and will go on sale shortly as a soft drink.

Though it will carry no duty, Barbican will cost the same as lager because, says Canada Dry, of the expense involved in expunging the alcohol.

Business Diary carried out a scientific test of the substance on the resident lager drunk at the column's club. Despite the lack of alcohol, he became giddy, rude and complained the following day of migraine. What can this mean?

Economic notebook

When silence is an admission of guilt

I would very much like to have one of the Post Office's new electronic telephones. The Post Office would no doubt like to supply me with one and earn handsome returns on its investment. Many, in fact, would like to lend the Post Office, or its successor, British Telecommunications, the money to buy the equipment. It is a transaction which would make everybody happy, including the private sector companies who

ment to be aiming for a move in this direction? Here they are entitled to rather more sympathy than they seem to be getting from their critics.

There really is no justification for not increasing the price of gas and electricity. Subsidies encourage energy consumption, which is what a policy of not charging the full rate the market will bear amounts to, is one of the most absurd subsidies, imaginable. It would make far more sense to get as much revenue as possible from these industries and to use the money to try to reduce inflation in other ways.

The position for other industries is more complex. There is no fundamental reason why industries such as steel should not, over time, cut their losses.

But it is a transaction which will have to be delayed, if not for me, than for many others. For the Post Office does not have enough money to back its commercial judgment on the likely expansion in demand for telecommunications services. And the Government's determination to impose a limit on the external finance which the Post Office can raise means that it has no way of getting it.

Frustration over the limit to commercial freedom which this implies seems to be one of the factors which led to the resignation as chairman of the Post Office of Sir William Barlow. He is known to have argued that the Government-imposed limit this year was set so low as to interfere with the corporation's investment programme.

Sir William's departure highlights a much broader issue which lies at the heart of the doubts which have emerged in recent weeks over the Government's medium term strategy, however. It is the extraordinary assumptions which seem to have been made about the ability of these industries to transform their financial positions.

Last financial year the nationalized industries as a whole borrowed £1900m from the Government. By 1984-5 they are expected to repay £550m. That improvement is almost half the cut in total public spending over the period of the Government's plan.

There are three questions which need to be answered. Can the nationalized industries achieve such an improvement? Should they do so? And does it make sense to treat their finances in the way that we do? The Government has put up a very poor performance in trying to persuade us that the answer to the first question is yes.

Let us assume for the moment that there is no revolt against the large increases in electricity and gas prices which are implied by the talk of economic pricing". Let us also assume that the energy industries do not face weakening demand as a response to higher prices.

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Let us assume for the moment that there is no revolt against the large increases in electricity and gas prices which are implied by the talk of economic pricing". Let us also assume that the energy industries do not face weakening demand as a response to higher prices.

It is certainly an odd way of running a business. Even odder is the notion that the proportion of the costs of building up our telephone network, which is covered by charges in any given year, should be determined by a Treasury desire to bring down its estimate of the total public sector borrowing requirement.

The trouble is that the present treatment of public spending lumps together too many disparate elements. Borrowing to finance investment in telecommunications is like borrowing to finance a chemical factory, not like running a deficit on the Government's current account or financing losses in shipbuilding.

The way to recognize this difference would be to do what has been considered before and allow those nationalized industries which can borrow in the open market for profitable ventures to do so and exclude them from the definition of PSBR which is the target for government.

This does not mean that the borrowing of nationalized industries do not matter or that they should be allowed to run unlimited losses. But a government which believes in the use of commercial judgment ought to practice what it preaches in its own borrowing figures.

David Blake

How Japanese shipyards survived the 'oil shock'

Peter Hill

Tokyo
At the Kure shipyard of Ishikawajima-Harima Heavy Industries (IHI) today workers will be laying the keel of a 69,000 tons deadweight oil tanker.

The quadrupling of oil prices in the early seventies dealt a double blow to Japan. Not only did it fuel domestic inflation, producing frenzied attempts to tie up supply contracts, but it also caused immense problems for the country's shipbuilding industry.

IHI, together with the other big shipbuilding groups including Mitsubishi, Mitsubishi and Sumitomo had previously played a key role in keeping down the cost of oil to the Western world by developing ever larger tankers to transport it.

In the early seventies, the Japanese had drawn up plans for the megaton tanker. The Kure yard was among the leaders and vessels like the 10,000-ton Daikoku tankers were a common place.

The "oil shock" changed all that. The ships in which the Japanese had specialized were no longer wanted and the tanker market slumped under the weight of the tonnage which owners had ordered before 1973.

A big reorganization was inevitable. To a large extent that

restructuring has now been completed and despite the slump in orders from a peak level of 73.6 million tons gross in 1973, world-wide, to a mere 16.8 million tons last year, the much slimmer Japanese industry still managed to secure close on 50 per cent of the available orders.

The influx of orders has of course been helped by the way in which the yen has weakened against other currencies, especially the United States dollar. So attractive were the Japanese yards because of the exchange rate that total export contracts gained in the last fiscal year totalled almost 7 million tons gross.

The yards are heavily booked throughout next year and the much reduced capacity has meant that pressure is growing on capacity for ships delivered in the following year. Such is the pressure that there are already rumbles of discontent in Europe that this relatively buoyant state of affairs may lead to the yards urging the government to ease the present restrictions on output.

The rationalization plan involved 60 yards reducing their capacity by 35 per cent by the end of February. That target has in fact been exceeded: 36.5 per cent of capacity was cut and thousands of workers have been redeployed to other work. Groupings of smaller yards have been encouraged and operating rates of the larger yards have been trimmed using the mechanism of Japan's anti-recession cartel which has been widely used in a number of other industries.

The reorganization has gone smoothly and earlier this month Japan's Fair Trade Commission approved a 12-month extension to the work of the Cartel beyond the original expiry date of March next year.

There is an air of cautious optimism about, but it is being tempered by an awareness of the grave effects of the present bout of inflation. Japan's wholesale price index is 20 per cent higher than a year ago, which is the sharpest rise since the first "oil shock" six years ago.

Workers in the shipbuilding industry are pondering the employers' offer of a rise of about 6 per cent in the new wage round (which looks as though it will be accepted) and productivity improvements will be sought against the recent rises in electricity and steel prices which have risen by 50 per cent and between 10-12 per cent respectively.

Japan's shipyards may have sailed through the storm of the past five years but it is still far from calm in the harbour.

Time to reform state industry appointments system

Barrier

Mr Ron Dearing, whose appointment to the Post Office has been rather overshadowed by the chairman's resignation, is one of several senior civil servants who have moved out of Whitehall recently. Only a month ago, Mr John Lippitt, who like Mr Dearing was a deputy secretary at the Department of Industry announced that he was going to GEC.

Nor is it by any means unprecedented for top civil servants to move to nationalized industries. Indeed Mr Alexander Currall, who was managing director (Posts) at the Post Office between 1972 and 1977 was a former under-secretary at the Board of Trade.

Several former Ministry of Power officials went to nationalized industries including Mr Owen Francis, a former chairman of the London Electricity Board, and Mr Alan Norris, the former chairman of the North Eastern Electricity Board.

Sir Robert Marshall in 1978 became chairman of the National Water Council from his position as second permanent secretary at the Department of the Environment. Then, of course, there is Mr Michael Casey, the deputy chairman and chief executive of British Shipbuilders who moved from the Department of Industry in 1977.

The difficulties are not new, though it is surprising that they have come to a head under a government which has declared (and demonstrated) that it does not want to meddle in the day-to-day running of the state industries. As far back as 1974, Sir William Ryland was re-appointed to the chair of the Post Office because the Department of Industry was unable to find a successor.

However, it is questionable whether, in the present political climate, in which nationalized industries are being required to become competitive, whether the transfer of civil servants to the helm of state boards is the best way of making a large slice of the national economy more efficient.

As any follower of the Yes Minister television series will have observed, Whitehall operates to rules which have little relevance to the business realities of making and selling things.

Mr Dearing's appointment to the Post Office is an exception. The postal division of the corporation never completed the change into an independent corporation in the 10 years since it ceased to be directly under the Civil Service umbrella. It provides a labour market for its own borrowing figures.

However, improvements in the recruiting arrangements will only touch the surface of the problem. Sir William Barlow (who is one of the more outspoken industry heads as well as chairman of the group) said that there were a number of reasons for his resignation from the

Patricia Tisdall

WHSMITH

W. H. Smith & Son (Holdings) Limited. Results 1979/80.

	1979/80 £ Million	1978/79 £ Million
Sales	570.9	474.1
Trading profit	20.7	19.6
Interest (payable)/receivable	(2.1)	0.9
Associated companies—losses	—	(6.3)
Profit before tax	18.6	20.2
Taxation	4.9	2.4
Profit after taxation	13.7	17.8
Extraordinary item—loss	—	(0.5)
Net profit	13.7	17.3
Per 50p share		

INSEAD

European Institute of Business Administration
Fontainebleau

Corporate Strategy Programme June 8 to June 13, 1980

Objectives: to provide general managers at corporate and divisional levels with a conceptual framework for the design of strategy in the context of a rapidly changing business environment.

European Manufacturing Strategy June 8 to June 20, 1980

Objectives: to examine the impact on total company performance of manufacturing decisions, and to develop a framework for planned improvement in productivity and profit.

International Finance Programme June 8 to June 20, 1980

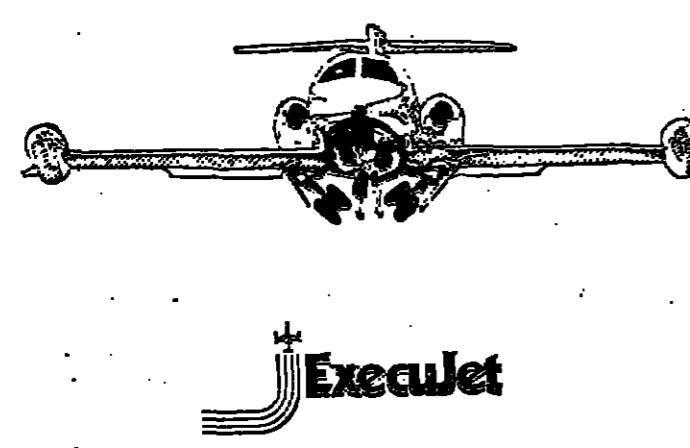
Objectives: to examine, in the context of the highly uncertain international economic and financial environment of today, foreign exchange risk management, international banking and financial markets.

Managerial Skills for International Business
August 24 to September 5, 1980

Objectives: to broaden the skills and capacities of the manager to be able to cope effectively with the challenges and problems of operating in a changing international environment.

For more information about these programmes please write to:
Mauri Forbes
Administrative Manager
Executive Development Programmes
INSEAD
77305 Fontainebleau Cedex, France
Tel: (61) 422 48 27 - Telex 690389 F

Time waits for no man.



General Mining and Finance Corporation Limited

(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

Extracts from the report to shareholders of the Chairman, Dr W J de Villiers

FINANCIAL

The turnover of the group, including associated companies, amounted to R3,202 million. Group income before taxation increased to R218 million and earnings per share at 235 cents represented an increase of 56 per cent.

Since the adoption of a policy in 1971 of concentrating on strategic investments under the control and management of the group, earnings per share increased from 39 cents in 1972 to 235 cents in 1979 at a compounded growth rate of 29.3 per cent per annum.

UNION CORPORATION LIMITED

On 26 March 1980 a scheme of arrangement, as proposed by General Mining, was approved as a result of which Union Corporation became a wholly owned operating subsidiary. The activities of the two companies are complementary and they continue to retain their separate identities and organisation structures. Activities will, as in the past, only be rationalised where practical and if advantageous to the group in general.

GOLD AND URANIUM

The gold price received increased by 53 per cent during the year and as a result gold production again made a valuable contribution towards the Group's income. Investigations aimed at increasing gold production are in progress. The supply of experienced black labour at all the mines remained excellent. This made a significant contribution to a more stable labour force, a lower accident rate and better production efficiencies.

The Chemwes plant for the extraction of uranium from the slimes dams of the Buffelsfontein and Stillfontein gold mines has been completed within budget and is producing at full capacity, four months ahead of schedule. The operation of this plant and the introduction of radio-metric sorting at West Rand Consolidated Mines resulted in an increase of 32 per cent in uranium production during the year. Production for the

coming year is expected to increase at a similar rate. The short-term uranium market has weakened but it is confidently expected that the position will improve in the longer term.

COAL

The coal tonnage sold by the Group increased by 10 per cent to 30.3 million. The main contributors were Matla Colliery and Ermelo Mines. The 11 per cent increase in February 1980 in the controlled price of coal supplied to the domestic market does not fully compensate for the cost increases experienced by the industry but there are indications of a strengthening of the international demand for thermal coal which could result in enhanced coal prices for South African suppliers, amongst others.

Certain reserves in the near Eastern Transvaal cannot be considered for on-site consumption by power stations until the completion of a comprehensive programme of environmental monitoring. These reserves may therefore have to be considered for other uses.

The results of exploration of the Northern Transvaal coalfield have been widely published. The two main features which have been established by exploration are that there are certain areas in which the concentration of uranium in or near the coal seams appears to be high enough to hold prospects for the economic recovery of uranium, and that the coal in this field is suitable for a wide variety of potential uses, particularly direct liquefaction to produce synthetic fuel which would probably yield more diesel than petrol. It must be emphasised that this project requires time-consuming research and investigation.

BASE MINERALS AND METALS

The markets for the base minerals and metals produced by the Group were generally satisfactory and particularly for those commodities which relate to the world steel and aluminium supply/demand position. Buoyant conditions for both ensured a strong demand for

fluorspar and manganese metal and the Group's resources were hard pressed to satisfy demand, particularly towards the year-end. Prices obtained for these products improved slowly throughout the year but the full effect of the improved demand will not be evident until the 1980 contracts have been negotiated.

In regard to asbestos, the demand for chrysotile was satisfactory throughout the year and sales were limited only by production capabilities.

In general the production costs of all the base minerals were well contained within inflationary limits.

INDUSTRIES

The group's industrial companies again performed well.

Although the general level of business activity is improving there is still little sign of significant increases in fixed investment which of course provide the main market for the group's heavy engineering and infrastructure based companies.

The shortages of skilled labour referred to last year have become steadily more apparent, and the need for concentrated training schemes allied to selective immigration is now approaching the critical stage if the development of the country is not to be restricted.

Substantial investment projects have recently been announced in respect of the manufacture of gear boxes and axles for heavy vehicles. Significant investments were taken up in Sentrachem and in Siemens S.A. Limited.

EXPLORATION

Exploration continues to constitute a major activity of the Group and the viability of some ore bodies and coalfields discovered in recent years is being examined.

Sustained geological and geophysical research during the past number of years had led to the identification of geological environments which warrant closer examination.

Reconnaissance exploration is in progress to determine whether more concentrated prospecting may be justified.

Copies of the Annual Report, including the Chairman's full statement, may be obtained from the London Office, General Mining and Finance Corporation Limited, Princes House, 95 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7EN.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Barrow Hepburn almost doubles

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Sharply lower interest

charges were largely responsible

for Barrow Hepburn's near-

doubled profits in the year to

December 31.

Net year-end borrowings were

equal to only 4 per cent of

shareholders' funds and with

interest charges falling by £1m,

pre-tax profits jumped from

£1.57m to £3.04m.

Barrow also managed a 9 per cent improvement in operating profits to £2.99m with all the United Kingdom companies except the textile operations showing better results. The associated companies in France and New Zealand turned in £158,000 more at £435,000.

Group turnover was only 4 per cent higher at £36.0m. Volume sales for the group were up but falling hide prices since last April depressed the value of sales.

Earnings per share have risen from 2.3p to 7.5p and the gross dividend for 1979 is more than twice the previous year at 3.14p. At 35p—up harder on the results—the yield is 9.0 per cent and the fully-taxed p, e ratio is 5.7.

Barrow says trading conditions worsened during the second half of 1979 but chief executive, Mr Raymond Way, says he is "not worried" about 1980.

Although still well-known for its links with the leather industry, Barrow has emerged from the restructuring and asset disposals of recent years with only just over a quarter of profits springing from leather operations or hide trading.

In the United Kingdom, Barrow has a wide spread of activities ranging from safety products and packaging to industrial rubber.

The overseas companies, which account for half of group pre-tax profits, include Rizzi in Italy which makes machinery for the tanning industry.

Barrow will be looking for acquisitions to expand its present activities.

The demise of British Tanners Products, which was jointly owned with the National Enterprise Board and went into receivership last July, should not cost Barrow any more.

The reduction in borrowings during 1979 reflected both a positive cash-flow and monies received in settlement of claims.

Stock markets

US bank announcement gives gilts late sp

After a cautious start generated by the military tension in the Middle East, when the FT Index slipped to 437.7, down 0.1 at 11 am, the stock markets firmed and made progress.

Gilts, which had opened slightly easier after the previous day's half an hour's rally in recent advances, began to rally later on with the prospect of the new long-term stock to be tendered today.

Dealers reported that speculation surrounding oversubscription for the tap had faded, but Government stocks received a sharp boost after hours with Chase Manhattan's announcement of a 4 per cent reduction in interest rates. This acted as a spur which enabled longs and shorts to close £1 better with half of the increase coming after the official close.

In equities, oils and properties made healthy gains. The oil stocks benefited from news that BNOC is to raise its North Sea oil prices by about 35 cents a barrel, which prompted sharp advances in Lasmo, £1.50 up at 207p, and Triocel, up 10p to 304p. Properties saw investors returning to the trading shares with the hope of lower interest rates.

By the close the FT Index had recovered to 443.1, 5.3 up, and after hours trading maintained the quietly firm pattern established in equities.

The leading industrials were buoyant all day. There was a tendency at lunchtime for a

move downwards, but this disappeared in the afternoon.

Unilever was pulled up, by 10p to 405p on the strength of its Dutch interests and dealers saw good turnover in Glaxo, which reported on Monday with interim figures, Beechams, on the back of suggestions that a substantial line of shares went through the market on Tuesday.

The move towards lower interest rates anticipated in the summer, and strengthened yesterday by the cut in United States prime rates, should boost the shares of hire purchase groups like Lloyds and Scottish whose price was unchanged on the day at 141p.

And in Dunlop, Glaxo finished 2p down at 216p, Beecham's 3p at 113p and Dunlop unchanged at 57p.

ICI gained 4p to 372p, Fisons 2p to 279p and Courtaulds rose 2p to 67p. Distillers put on 4p to 207p and Rank finished with a 2p gain to 198p.

A lengthy list of company results also provided some features for the market with Rio Tinto-Zinc leading the field with considerably better than expected figures which helped to push up the share price 15p to 378p.

Burnah Oil advanced 7p to 22p after good results and a bigger than expected dividend while Hawker Siddeley went up

4p immediately after announcing profits above market estimates, but closed unchanged at 10p to 405p on the strength of its Dutch interests and dealers saw profits with a 3p jump to 35p.

In papers, Portals, which made a 15 per cent earnings improvement, gained 10p to 268p, as did De La Rue at 575p and Bowater, which reported recently, moved up 10p to 185p. The Bristol Evening Post, which has closed down over its printing dispute, tumbled by 10p to 145p.

In stores, W. H. Smith dropped 13p to 133p after a 7.1 per cent profit fell, while British Home Stores pushed ahead by 6p to 282p. GKN "A" closed 9p up at 393p and Boots benefited from investment interest in the sector, by adding 3p to 198p.

NSN News lost 1p to 116p after UK Temperance and General Provident Institute had pushed up its holding to 149 per cent.

Electricals had a strong day although dealers reported this trading and the tendency was for investors to move into the leading stocks after seeing the second liners rise in the last few days.

GEC gained 5p to 384p, Deco-ordinary shares rose 15p to 710p and the "A" shares by the same amount to 595p. Far- nall advanced 10p to 296p with Unitech gaining 13p to 291p.

Brock's Group, whose results

will be announced today, fell 9p to 43p on the news that there

would be a bid made off the marine electronics side, which accounts for the bulk of the group's business. For Eastern competition and a slump in small boats sales has produced stockpiling.

Property share price gains were in MEC, which rose 6p to 209p, Great Portland, which

rose 10p to 168p after and Winkelhake, up 23p, as investors seem to venture with a bit of gold shares after it at the beginning of the year.

In rubbers, Hongko by 43p to 658p and Gulture rallied 1.

Equity turnover for was £24,195m (month gains 10,879), The stocks according to Telegraph, were Trio GEC, National, W. L. Laing, Beechams, Burman, Shell, Allied Boots, GKN, Racal an

TSB, Williams and Glyn

4.7 day deposit on £10,000 and under £25,000 1.3%

220,000 1.3%

£1.25m 1.3%

NCIAL NEWS

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ANNOUNCEMENT

Customers and members of the public are advised that as a result of industrial action, some delay may occur in the provision of normal banking services. In particular there may be delays in the clearance of cheques and in the transfer of credits within the banking system. The Banks will continue to maintain the best possible service.

Barclays, Lloyds, Midland, National Westminster, Williams & Glyn's Banks

Berwick beats forecast

By Peter Wilson-Smith
Toymaker Berwick Timpo—

at the centre of one of last year's most publicized company rows—produced better than forecast profits of £1.52m before tax. This compared with £1.05m in 1978. Group sales in the year to December 31 rose by 28 per cent to £16.8m.

Berwick had forecast £1.4m profit last September in the context of the tempestuous struggle for control of the company which ended with incumbent chairman Mr John Oakley narrowly defeating former chief executive Mr Torquay Norman.

However, two of Mr Oakley's supporters, directors were ousted and Berwick has made provision for compensation to one of them, Mr J. A. Stitt, amounting to £65,000 gross.

The impetus behind the rise in profits came from the Berwick Toy, whose "Happy Time" nursery range has been most successful. Profit was struck after higher interest costs and £480,000 trading losses from Model Toys and Flair Toys.

Both have been closed and full provisions made, accounting for the bulk of the 1976-000.



Mr John D. Oakley, chairman of Berwick Timpo.

An abnormally low tax charge accounts for more than doubled earnings to 25.2p a share. As forecast the year's dividend rises by three-quarters from 4.88p to 8.57p gross.

Berwick now comprises three profitable subsidiaries, which it raised profit in 1979, and have introduced new products for 1980. These, says Mr Oakley, "have been well received by customers."

Mr Oakley expects tough conditions for the toy industry as a whole in 1980 but says that orders are 11 per cent up in value. This represents some fall in volume but for the full year Mr Oakley expects volume to rise and he does not expect margins to suffer.

However, Berwick's tax charge will be proportionately much higher in 1980 and so the group foresees lower earnings per share.

Mr Norman still retains about 12 per cent of the equity. The shares rose 5p to 73p immediately after the results where the yield is 11.7 per cent. The p.e. ratio is on a nominal full tax charge is 3.6.

Singer & Friedlander tops £4m

Singer and Friedlander, the Accepting House part of the C. T. Bowring group, has reported pre-tax profits for 1979 of £4.024m after transfer to contingency reserves.

This compares with £2.88m previously. The greater part of the increase comes from the transfer to profit of provisions for bad debts that are no longer needed.

The chairman says that the current year has started well with a good level of volume.

One question mark on the future of Singer and Friedlander is what happens to its Accepting House status once its parent company, C. T. Bowring, is taken over by the American Marsh and McLennan.

Portals Holdings, the water treatment, engineering and paper note paper making group, has the bulk of profits from the United Kingdom but sees growth this year in North America.

Already the security paper making side has benefited from large orders for travellers cheques from VISA, the independent credit card company of which Barclays Bank is the leading member.

More profits should be on the way this year, although finance director Mr Simon Every says the contribution will not be large.

Elsewhere, North American

Allied buys more Brit Mohair

Allied Textiles yesterday increased its stake in Bradford-based British Mohair Spinners by a further 100,000 shares, bringing its holding to 5.87 per cent.

Allied has been buying British Mohair shares in the market over the last few weeks. It announced on Monday that it had passed the 5 per cent level.

Allied Textile's chairman Mr Russel Smith said yesterday that the depressed ratings in the textiles sector had thrown up a number of interesting situations, and the stake in British Mohair "gives us a foothold from which we can advance."

Allied Textiles approached British Mohair last autumn with a view to a merger, but was firmly rebuffed. The attraction of British Mohair is that it is one of the world's largest spinners of high-quality mohair yarns and the group is a big exporter. Profits fell by 46 per cent to £1.52m pre-tax in 1979 because of dire trading conditions.

Yesterday, British Mohair claimed ignorance of Allied's motives.

Briefly

Cornell Dresses: Midland Bank (Overseas) nominees has increased in state from 8.8 to 9.72 per cent. Cornell passed the interim and paid an unchanged final dividend.

Change of name: Stockbrokers, Sanderson and Company announced on May 12, the name of the company will be changed to Bone, Fitzgerald and Co. Subject to consent of Stock Exchange Council the following will be appointed director: Stephen M. Bone, Paul A. Fitzgerald, Andrew J. Oliver, Paul T. Sotiriou, and Alastair R. White.

Glamorganshire/Cardiff Project: Offer made on behalf of Glamorgan property company for the demolition of Cardiff's 50-year-old Civic Hall has been unconditional. Acceptances under offer have been received in respect of 3,801 shares in Cardiff (0.8 per cent). Glamorgan and persons acting in concert now control 25.75 per cent in Cardiff (50.1 per cent). Offer will remain open for further acceptances until April 30.

ICI: Holders of a further 337,000 bonds have exercised their right of conversion into ICI ordinary stock. Number of bonds now outstanding is 43,959, representing £44,959,000.

Kalemesee: Interim of 1.78p gross (£1.80m) to reduce the issue for 26 weeks to February 1 were £14.1m (27 weeks £12m). Pre-tax profit £2.05m (£2.09m). Despite encouraging signs from overseas, board feels company will have done well if final results equal last year's record performance.

Horizon travel: Chairman says that indications are that trade bookings for next summer are up again significantly, with the company taking up an increased share of the market. The new long-term security in having available economic and efficient aircraft, together with a direct profit contribution from Orion, should strengthen the steady expansion which company has enjoyed for some time.

Leigh Tires: In response to issue by way of rights to ordinary shareholders of £1.8m nominal of 10 per cent convertible unsecured loan stock 1984-85, £1.1m nominal (£0.4 per cent) had been taken up by April 12, £0.3m nominal has been sold in the market at nominal premium and proceeds will be distributed pro rata among the provisional allottees of the stock not taken up.

Ant and Wheare: Chairman says that it is difficult to make firm forecast for year, but given a reasonable trading environment he is sure of the continued development of company's business. Accounts show pre-tax profit of £1.41m (£2.17m).

McE Engineering has acquired materials handling specialists from Meads, based at Castle Donington, Leicestershire, for £270,000. Up to £50,000 more is payable provided aggregate pre-tax profits exceed £200,000 for the two years ending August 31, 1982.

Number of Meads at November 30, 1979 were £314,074, and net profit before tax was £58,648.

AVERAGE EARNINGS

The following are the index numbers for average earnings of employees in all industries and services covered by the monthly earnings index released by the Department of Employment.

	(1) Old series of average earnings	(2) New series of average earnings	Change in (1) over (2) at 3 months
Feb	355.8	141.1	18.5
March	369.3	142.1	28.5
April	364.2	144.3	30.0
May	373.2	148.9	21.3
June	328.6	150.9	20.1
July	357.8	159.8	23.2
Aug	351.1	153.7	13.0
Sept	354.1	153.5	12.6
Oct	401.3	156.1	25.8
Nov	408.2	162.1	26.5
Dec	417.2	165.1	32.2
1980	415.3	163.0	14.6
Jan	421.8	157.3	14.1

REVENUE ACCOUNTS AND BALANCE SHEETS The consolidated balance sheet shows that the ordinary long-term insurance funds, including Pensions Management (SWF) Ltd, now exceed £1,286M, an addition of £197M compared with £156M in the previous year. The total income includes annual premiums which now exceed £160M, and investment income of £133M. In 1978 the investment income amounted to £100M, and the substantial increase is due to increases in equity dividends and continuing high yields on British Government securities. The increase in expenses of management in 1979 (£2M) is the same as in 1978. The continued upward trend in living costs has, however, necessitated the payment of higher salaries to the staff, the full effect of which will be felt in 1980. The Society makes every effort to achieve economies and thus to contain expenses as far as possible.

The 16th Annual Meeting of the Scottish Widows' Fund and Life Assurance Society will be held at 15 Deleath Road, Edinburgh at 2.30 pm on Tuesday 6th May 1980. The following are extracts from the Statement by the Chairman, Mr E H M Clutterbuck, OBE, published in advance of the meeting.

Scottish Widows investment policy brings improved results for policyholders

BONUS RATES A detailed investigation of the Society's position was made last year and as a result the Directors have been able to increase our rates of intermediate bonus yet again. As from 1st January 1980 the rate of intermediate bonus for ordinary with profits policies was increased from 4.70% to 4.90% per annum compound and that for with profits policies in our pension business fund from 5.50% to 5.80%. At the same time the rates of bonus used to illustrate future benefits were similarly increased. Last year we increased the terminal bonuses available on claims arising during the second half of 1979, particularly for the shorter-term contracts, and we have been able to do so again for the first half of 1980.

I mentioned last year that a review in *Planned Savings* showed that a with profits whole life policy on the life of a man aged 30 effected with the Society on 1st April 1978 subject to an annual premium of £100 produced a claim value 40 years later of £19,169, the highest figure for any office. A year later the 40-year claim value had increased to £19,867, and in April 1980 the corresponding figure will be £20,688. There have been relatively bigger improvements for shorter-term contracts. For a 25-year with profits endowment assurance on the life of a man aged 30 effected with the Society on 1st April 1953 subject to an annual premium of £100 the maturity value in 1978 was £6,656. For a similar policy maturing in 1979 it had risen to £6,923 and the corresponding figure for 1980 will be £7,279.

No firm judgment can be made on the relative merits of the with profits policies of different offices on the basis of new business illustrations, without knowing the assumptions required if the bonus rates illustrated are to be maintained, and it is not surprising that life offices do not provide this information in view of the complexity of the calculations and the number of variables involved. Past results are a better guide, yet many with profits policies appear to be sold on the basis of new business quotations alone.

PROPOSED NEW ACT OF PARLIAMENT A Special Meeting of members held on 5th February passed unanimously a resolution approving the promotion of the Bill now before Parliament and at that meeting an explanation was given of some of the reasons behind the promotion of a new Act.

The Bill is going through the Parliamentary processes of first and second readings, committee stages and so on in both Houses in much the same way as a public Bill and, all being well, it is hoped that it will receive the Royal Assent and become our new Act in late summer or early autumn.

LEGISLATION I mentioned last year two items of legislation which were about to be introduced. The first was the scheme whereby relief was to be deducted from eligible premiums by policyholders resident in the UK and this scheme is now fully operational. With the need to reduce Government spending there has been much talk about the possible withdrawal of various reliefs, including life assurance premium relief. We believe that the life offices' associations have made a strong case to the Treasury for the retention of this relief. This case rests on the unique opportunity which life assurance offers to the individual to protect and provide for his family rather than rely entirely on the State, and the benefit to the national economy of encouraging a regular flow of long-term contractual savings available for investment, features which are recognised in many countries of the world, in particular all the EEC member states, by the granting of appropriate tax incentives. We do, however, deplore the use of artificial contracts which exploit life assurance premium relief, for example by transferring part of the premium from one contract to another in order to avoid the "clawback" of premium relief when a qualifying policy is surrendered, and we are glad to learn that the Government means to introduce legislation to prevent this.

I also referred last year to the "cooling-off" period which applies to most new contracts issued from 1st January 1980. The Society is issuing the Statutory Notices advising a policyholder of his rights as soon as the first premium is paid or a valid banker's order is received. I am glad to report that these arrangements are working smoothly and that we have received very few notices of cancellation.

SPECIAL NEWS

am Baird in £1.2m sale

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Mr Stanley Field, chairman of William Baird.

News of the sale accompanied Baird's full-time results for last year, which show a 43 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £7.8m on a 17 per cent turnover boost to £136.5m.

The dividend is lifted 18 per cent on the figures to 17.5p

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Sons, the seeds s group, is look- uisition in the age to build up operations. The ished up profits £9.7m last year, for this year for 60 per cent edical supplier

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d Park raised by 72 per cent 379 on turnover £1,000 to £567,000. dent has been per cent to 20p.

with a 10p final and the shares turned a few pence.

At the operating level, the biggest increase came from investments, which jumped from £43.9m to £1.5m. Textiles increased from £4m to £5.4m and the industrial group, Duxford, continued to earn major profits, from insulation contracting, lifting its operating profit from £2.1m to £2.46m.

The Textile result included a £70,000 contribution from Willerby Verber which Baird bought last July. In its last full year, before acquisition profits were £801,000.

Baird is still on the lookout for new acquisitions, although Mr Field says there is no rush. Earlier this week it bought Springfield House Textiles.

The buys are being financed from £13.8m Baird received last April when it sold its stake in Dawson International. With £13.25m of that money, deposits and other immediately realizable assets exceeded total debt by £4.4m.

Mr Field says the first three months of this year have topped the same period in 1979, although at that time, "we had a busy start to the year", he said.

Mr Stanley Field, chairman of William Baird.

Baird's full-time results for last year, which show a 43 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £7.8m on a 17 per cent turnover boost to £136.5m.

The dividend is lifted 18 per cent on the figures to 17.5p

Business appointments

Director named for insurance group

Mr J. R. Crammey has been appointed a director of the Ecclesiastical Insurance Office.

Mr F. H. Richards has been made chairman and managing director of Glavill Enthoues (Home). Mr D. W. Andrew, chairman of Glavill Enthoues (Home) has assumed responsibility for the companies United Kingdom locations outside London.

Mr Peter Farrell, who is at present financial director of Stag Plastics, will succeed Mr Brian Heggie, who is retiring as financial director of British Industrial Plastics. Mr Dudley Barker has been made finance director of Newlands Insulation.

Mr Mark Koffe and Mr Tony Vincent have joined the board of directors of Maranello Concessions aires.

Mr Norman Albert Bonham-Carter has joined the board of Alben Trust Managers.

Mr Martin Truscott has become managing director of Stag Plastics.

Mr Hugh Heggie has been made chief executive and general manager of Swans and will remain a director of Homeplan.

Mr Ian V. Lockwood has joined the board of Amalgamated Dis- tilled Products.

Mr M. G. Wilcox has become deputy chairman of the Thomas Cook Group.

Mr David J. Archer, has been appointed production director of Standard and Podlin.

Mr Norman Purnell has become group finance director of Stag Plastics.

Mr Michael B. Edwards has joined the CompAir Group as director of organization develop- ment.

Mr Alistair Young has been appointed managing director of Capper Neill International (Process) in the Capper Neill International Division.

Mr Malcolm W. Wondham has joined the board of Gilkeson Doors and Windows and marketed direct.

Mr Michael B. Edwards has become senior director of the Amey Read- stone Corporation and Mr Eric Hope has been appointed a director.

Mr Martin Moss has been re- appointed managing director of Stag Plastics.

Mr Robin J. Lipcombe has become managing director of the Varnam Rubber Company (UK).

Mr J. C. Clements has become chairman and Mr R. C. Allardice has become managing director of Glavill Enthoues. Mr A. E. Turski and Mr R. K. Walker have been appointed directors.

Mr W. Foy has become a part of Buckmaster & Moore. Mr J. M. A. Smelt has resigned his position.

Mr K. H. Schick, Mr C. W. Sharpner and Mr C. H. Stapleton have been appointed managing directors of Pacol. Mr H. Bennett, Mr K. C. Jennings, Mr J. J. W. Turski and Mr R. K. Walker have been appointed directors.

Mr David Pritchard-Brett is to join the board of Whilbread and Co.

United Leasing, one of Europe's leading operating lease companies, will provide a full and sales expertise together with management services for the new company, which will trade both in the United Kingdom and abroad.

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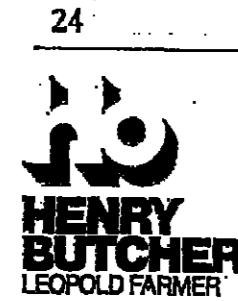
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VALUATIONS
& SALES
PROPERTY
AND PLANT
LONDON • BIRMINGHAM
LEEDS

Stock Exchange Prices

Gilt move ahead after hours

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began, April 14. Dealings end, April 25. 5 Contango Day, April 26. Settlement Day, May 6

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

1979/80		Int. Gross		Gross		Gross		Gross		Gross		Gross	
High	Low	Price Chg	Red.	High	Low	Price Chg	peice	High	Low	Price Chg	peice	High	Low
Stock	Stock	Chg	Yield	Company	Company	Chg	P.E.	Stock	Stock	Chg	P.E.	Stock	Stock
BRITISH FUNDS													
SHORTS	SHOR	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.373	16.637	1.00	1.00	0.373	16.637	1.00	1.00
2795 225 Fund	2795 225	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.345	16.529	1.00	1.00	0.345	16.529	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.326	16.522	1.00	1.00	0.326	16.522	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.310	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.310	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.305	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.305	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.300	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.300	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.295	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.295	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.290	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.290	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.285	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.285	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.280	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.280	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.275	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.275	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.270	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.270	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.265	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.265	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.260	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.260	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.255	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.255	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.250	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.250	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.245	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.245	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.240	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.240	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.235	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.235	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.230	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.230	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.225	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.225	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.220	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.220	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.215	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.215	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.210	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.210	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.205	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.205	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.200	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.200	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.195	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.195	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.190	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.190	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.185	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.185	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.180	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.180	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.175	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.175	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.170	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.170	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.165	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.165	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.160	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.160	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.155	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.155	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.150	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.150	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.145	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.145	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.140	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.140	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.135	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.135	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.130	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.130	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.125	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.125	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012 125	1.00	1977-80 177.7	1.00	1.00	0.120	15.120	1.00	1.00	0.120	15.120	1.00	1.00
1012 125 Fund	1012												

£6,000 plus Appointments

Office Services Supervisor

£6,600-£8,000 p.a.

Independent Broadcasting Authority wishes to appoint an Administrative Assistant (male or female) to administer and supervise the activities of a specialist Registry. Duplicating Section. Telephone, Change, Post Room and Stationery Stores at its Knightsbridge headquarters.

Well as ensuring the smooth running of all the sub-sections, the successful candidate will be responsible for efficiently maintaining the Authority's records and archives. Applicants should possess considerable experience in a supervisory position with a large organisation or public authority, a formal business qualification, and the abilities to present clear and concise reports and to communicate effectively with all levels of staff within the Authority. Conditions of service are excellent and include a salary in the range £600-£8,000, 4 weeks' annual holiday; pension scheme; subsidised staff canteen; season ticket loan scheme.

INDEPENDENT BROADCASTING AUTHORITY

obtain an application form please telephone 01-584 7011 extension 272 or you prefer write to the Personnel Officer, IBA, 70 Brompton Road, London SW3 1EY.

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

A HOUSEKEEPER, A BUTLER AND A COOK

are required for Judge's lodgings, Leeds.

The Lord Chancellor's Department has, due to retirements, vacancies at the Judges' Lodgings, Leeds, for persons to act as housekeeper, butler and chef to HM High Court Judges. The vacancies are suitable for either married couples or single persons. Ideally, successful applicants will have a 1st class qualification in domestic service, though this is not essential. They must be prepared to work all hours for the smooth running of the Lodgings.

It would be an advantage for the housekeeper to have had experience of running a large household and controlling domestic staff. The butler must have a knowledge of personal valuing and table service. The cook must be able to prepare meals and preparing all meals for judges, their wives and their clerks plus occasional dinner parties. One of the successful applicants will be required to be steward of the household.

The posts are permanent and pensionable. The annual leave is 18 days plus 10 days public and privilege holidays. There is accommodation available suitable for either a married couple or a single person.

Salary: Housekeeper £2,400
Butler £2,500
Chef £2,150

Housekeeping allowance: £488 per annum.

The posts affect an excess hours allowance of 11% gross salary. A deduction is made for accommodation, heating, lighting and food.

For application form and further details write to or telephone the Personnel Officer, Circuit Administrators Office, 4th Floor, National Westminster House, 29 Broad Street, Leeds, LS1 5BQ. Telephone Leeds (0532) 41841

REQUIRED

QUALIFIED CHILDREN'S NURSE. German, aged 29, seeks temporary position in U.K. during summer months. Good references. Contact: Hopkins, 7 Appleton Swiss, 19, 1st floor, 3rd floor, with English-speaking family. Tel: 021-522 0000. Genève, Switzerland.

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PASS YOUR EXAM FIRST TIME WITH METROPOLITAN COLLEGE OR YOUR FEE REFUNDED

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Home Study Courses for over 30 exams including: Accountancy, Bankers I.C.A.M., I.I.B., Law Society, Chartered Insurance Inst., Inst. of Legal Executives, Law, etc. GCE 'O' & 'A' level.

Write today and call us the exam you wish to pass, too.

COOK/HOUSEKEEPER

Full-time residential position required for young woman 20 miles from London with private room and board and top salary including car offered to single young woman with good experience of cooking to high standard. Work for 2 directors' lunches, 2x day, 2x evenings, 2x week. Kitchen for household of two children. Work for 2x week when guests are entertained the household and personal care. Work for 2x week in office canteen plus specific details. London, plus expenses. Recent photograph, availability and 1st class car. Write to Mrs. M. H. Hart, 29a Gloucester Place, London W1. Tel: 01-584 2724. Name and contact telephone number. Reply Box No. 0290 N. The Times.

EXPERIENCED NANNY MOTHER'S HELP

20+ to work in the Holland Park/Kensington area. 6-year-old boy and 8-year-old girl. The nanny will be responsible for sole charge when necessary of children. Own, clean, quiet room, colour TV and bath, central heating, abundant travel including 2 months in Europe. Must have sense of humour, love of children. Other references. The salary is generous free time. References 0902, between 9-11 a.m. or after 5 p.m.

ABROAD, ABROAD, ABROAD

Experienced married couples

COOK, BUTLER

Urgently required for London, 2130 clear day, 2130 clear night. Also

urgently required for position

COOK, BUTLER

Required now for Paris to start for born P.W. London interview.

AND... in Palm Beach, Florida, 2 years old and month baby at 0902, between 9-11 a.m. or after 5 p.m.

MOTHER'S HELP

20+ to work in the Holland

Park/Kensington area. 6-year-old

boy and 8-year-old girl. The

nanny will be responsible for

sole charge when necessary

of children. Own, clean, quiet

room, colour TV and bath,

central heating, abundant

travel including 2 months in

Europe. Must have sense of

humour, love of children.

Other references. The salary

is generous free time. References 0902, between 9-11 a.m. or

after 5 p.m.

GENERAL VACANCIES

TYPING ASSISTANT, 18+

with good speed and an eye for detail. Experience in medical affairs wanted by small professional body to work within their own rambling house in S.W. 1. £24,000. Motions Grove Recruitment Consultants, 839 2186.

LONDON, LONDON, LONDON

EXPERIENCED BUTLER/COOK

Super couple required for Super house in Super house. Super salary.

MRS. LINES EMP. AGY.

165 KENSINGTON HIGH ST., LONDON W.8.

01-937 4165

LONDON, LONDON, LONDON

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Super couple required for Super house in Super house. Super salary.

MRS. LINES EMP. AGY.

165 KENSINGTON HIGH ST., LONDON W.8.

01-937 4165

MRS. LESTER PIGOTT

Urgently required housekeeper for her parents' own house in pleasant house, clean, quiet, central London. Apply: Mrs. Lester Pigott, 7811, 01-937 4165.

PROXY PARENTS

Required. Responsible woman

to look after children

and house. Tel: 01-930 8009.

YOUNG ENERGETIC person

required as General Assistant.

Newspaper delivery.

£100 per week.

Good opportunities.

Write to: Mrs. J. M. Smith, 100

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Good opportunities.

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PERSONAL CHOICE

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davall

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 am Open University : A year of change ; 7.05 Brunelleschi's architecture ; 7.30 Sunn clearance in the 1930s. Close down at 7.55. 8.45 pm News and weather.

1.45 pm *Wise and Wot* : Nostalgia edition. Alan Jones, Ian McEwan and star of Hollywood musicals of the 1930s (A Night at the Opera, The Firefly, etc) proves he can still sing. Also, an item about the famous film-making family, the Wards.

1.45 Mr Benn : Ray Brooks tells the story of Mr Benn and the Cook, by David McKee (c). Close down at 2.00.

3.55 *Play School* : Christopher Biggins with *The New Big Unit*, 3.20 *Two's Company* : The Exterminator, Drama, by Lionel Goldstein, about a Venice-bound tourist (Paul Rogers) who finds himself charged by the Germans with a wartime murder. Also starring

Peter Rodman, Robert Stephens and Deborah Norton.

10.45 *Question Time* : Robin Day's questions-and-discussion show. His panel tonight consists of Sir John Methven, Director-General of the CBI; train drivers' leader Ray Blackmore; Margaret Haden, and Jock Brat-Gardine, MP.

11.42 *The Sky at Night* : Patrick Moore visits the multi-mirror telescope (six, all told) at the summit of Mount Hopkins in Arizona. It is the most powerful telescope ever built.

12.10 am Weather.

Regions

12.01 VARIATIONS : Cyprus/Wales : 6.25 pm *Wales Tonight*, 6.30 pm *Wales Tonight News*, 6.35 *Reporters*, 7.30 *Two's Company* : The Exterminator, Drama, by Lionel Goldstein, about a Venice-bound tourist (Paul Rogers) who finds himself charged by the Germans with a wartime murder. Also starring

BBC 2

6.40 am Open University, Mathematics, 7.05 *2-D digital computer* ; 7.20 *Display simulation* (2). Closedown at 7.55.

11.00 *Play School* : Same as BBC 1. 3.55 *Closedown* at 7.55.

4.55 pm Open University : The Venetian Twins, 5.45 learned in the world—the new discipline ; 6.30 *Mugging*.

6.55 *Now and Then* : Repeat showing of an Arcana film about the British figure painter Anthony Green. He compares his work now with that of his father, 1930.

8.25 One Man and His Dog : Return of the very popular series about sheepdog trials, introduced by Phil Drabble and Eric Halsall. Shot in the English Lake District.

8.55 *Newnight* : Live broadcast from Salisbury as the Union Jack is lowered for the last time. Peter Snow reports on the historic occasion (see Personal Choice).

12.10 Town ... Town : A week with the players of the Workington Rugby League Club, and a study of regional news, weather.

12.45 pm *Regional news*, weather.

1.00 *Study on 4* : Over to Youth (7).

1.15 *Open University* : Twentieth-Century Poetry : Optical Micrography.

event was made possible, despite what Ian Smith said (see title and see, also, Personal Choice).

8.05 *In the Making* : Robert Bates paints landscapes—and paints them very well, we see him painting them in a stone circle in Shropshire.

8.25 One Man and His Dog : Return of the very popular series about sheepdog trials, introduced by Phil Drabble and Eric Halsall. Shot in the English Lake District.

8.55 *Now and Then* : Repeat showing of an Arcana film about the British figure painter Anthony Green. He compares his work now with that of his father, 1930.

9.00 *Question of Guilt* : Final instalment of the extraordinary tale of Constance Kent, released from a charge of murdering her half-brother, and now an "outsider" in a religious community in Brighton. Starring Prue Clarke as Constance.

9.30 *Man Alive* : Battle of Braefoot Bay. The plans of Essex and Shetland to store, as liquid, the gas that is normally burnt off above the North Sea oil fields. The Shetlanders who see the scheme as a threat to their lives. An investigation into official safety studies.

9.45 *One Man and His Dog* : Return of the very popular series about sheepdog trials, introduced by Phil Drabble and Eric Halsall. Shot in the English Lake District.

9.55 *Now and Then* : Repeat showing of an Arcana film about the British figure painter Anthony Green. He compares his work now with that of his father, 1930.

10.15 *Newnight* : Live broadcast from Salisbury as the Union Jack is lowered for the last time. Peter Snow reports on the historic occasion (see Personal Choice).

10.30 *Work and Leisure* : Final lecture in this series is given by Professor H. H. Peacock, professor of Social Studies at the University of Oxford. Ends at 12.00.

ley Holloway, Jessie Matthews and Arthur Schwartz. Dennis Norden is the escort.

4.15 *Little House on the Prairie* : An adoption runs into father trouble ; 5.15 *Selwyn* : Knockabout comedy with Bill Maynard at a holiday camp.

5.30 *One Man and His Dog* : Return of the very popular series about sheepdog trials, introduced by Phil Drabble and Eric Halsall. Shot in the English Lake District.

5.45 *Now and Then* : Repeat showing of an Arcana film about the British figure painter Anthony Green. He compares his work now with that of his father, 1930.

6.00 *Study on 4* : Over to Youth (7).

6.15 *Open University* : Twentieth-Century Poetry : Optical Micrography.

6.30 *Man Alive* : Battle of Braefoot Bay. The plans of Essex and Shetland to store, as liquid, the gas that is normally burnt off above the North Sea oil fields. The Shetlanders who see the scheme as a threat to their lives. An investigation into official safety studies.

6.45 *One Man and His Dog* : Return of the very popular series about sheepdog trials, introduced by Phil Drabble and Eric Halsall. Shot in the English Lake District.

6.55 *Now and Then* : Repeat showing of an Arcana film about the British figure painter Anthony Green. He compares his work now with that of his father, 1930.

7.00 *Work and Leisure* : Final lecture in this series is given by Professor H. H. Peacock, professor of Social Studies at the University of Oxford. Ends at 12.00.

Jones, Clive Swift and Deirdre Costello (see Personal Choice).

9.30 *Shelley* : The comedy series returns. Hywel Bennett is the educated layabout. His girl friend Linda Sinclair is executing their plan, and all is well on the prospective father-in-law front.

10.00 *News*.

10.30 *Thames Report* : The Cascading Playbox series the wrong in London. The rules of some of the rival companies are challenging that dominance. Martin Short reports on the allegations being levelled against Playbox whose boss, Victor Lowrie, is trying to clean up London's casinos.

11.00 *Lou Grant* : Newspaper drama. Should the victim's names be published when there is a fire in a bar for homosexuals? Edward Asner plays the editor of the Tribune in this above-average series.

12.00 *What the Papers Say* : Presented tonight by Gillian Reynolds, the journalist and broadcaster.

12.15 *Am Close* : Robert Rietty and the story of the parting of the Red Sea.

1.00 *News*.

1.30 *Together* : Life in a block of flats. Leslie Shepherd is in trouble at work.

2.00 *After Noon Plus* : Brightening the boring life of London, including South Kensington Underground station. Also, the life and times of Sir Freddie Laker, the cheap air fares pioneer.

2.35 *Racing from Newmarket* : We see the 2.30 Crown Plus Two Apprentice Championship, the 3.00 Ladies' Gold Cup, Sprint Handicap and the 3.30 Ladbrokes Neil Gower Stakes.

9.00 *The Nesbitts are Coming* : New comedy series, with original songs, about an itinerant family of petty crooks. Starring Maggie

1.30 *Looks Familiar* : Down show business Memory Lane, with Stan

WAVELENGTHS : Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 328m/900kHz or 433m/693kHz and 88-91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90-92 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/2000kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area 904m; med wave 720kHz/417m. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF. Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF. World Service : med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 206m, 94.9 VHF.

SYMBOLS MEAN : *STEREO ; *BLACK AND WHITE ;

The Nesbitts are Coming (ITV, 9.00)

Smith said (in March 1976) would never happen in ours has come to pass somewhat earlier than that—ence of a black majority ruled Rhodesia. Tonight, at Salisbury, the Union Jack comes down and the flag goes up. Newsweek (BBC 2, 7.30) has David Jessel Ian Smith, Garfield Todd and Sir Roy Welensky, and celebrations. Later, on Newsnight (BBC 2, 10.45) will report, live, on the flag substitution ceremony, radio. London Broadcasting, the newsy one of commercial stations, has a one-hour Zimbabwe which includes interviews with Ian Smith, Robert Harold Wilson and previous and subsequent Britishers. From Rhodesia to Zimbabwe is presented by it goes to 8.00 pm in the London area.

ts are Coming (ITV, 9.00), breaks new ground, and, I welcome it. It is a comedy serial about a family of peripatetic petty crooks and the merry ad the police. Nothing new in that, of course. The fact that, every so often, one or other of the characters bursts into song, I don't think the good, mind you, and the actors are no singers station sergeant, Tony Melody, whose duty you bisects two, but the musical numbers do possess the being merely stuck to the plot but arise, usefully, serial is scripted by Dick Sharples and, given the army milieu, the V-sign language strikes me as being lied.

on "what really goes on inside James Burke's really answered in the penultimate instalment of (BBC 1, 8.30). The self-employed Mr Burke, the anaesthetised by a hospital operating up a door in the back of his van, extracts a formation which triggers his reaction modes ones in a third of a second), plus it to his lapel and into a Nasa-type world of a million sensations, technical tour de force, and occasionally Je.

recommendations for today : Monica Dickens on (Radio 4, 2.02) ... The BBC Northern Orchestra's Beethoven symphony—the No 7—on Radio 3. A side-former discussion on films (Radio 1, a broadcast of Jonathan Raban's much-praised (Radio 3, 3.30) in which a man (John Castle) his past and future while someone else (Michael Attes on remorselessly.

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THAMES

9.30 am *Balti* : A documentary (r). 9.45 *Spiderman* : Cartoon. 10.15 *Canada* : The Canadian shelf area ; an award-winning film (r) ; 11.05 *Boney* : Murder of a farmer on a railway crossing ; with Goggle Withers (r) ; 11.55 *The Gamma and Spinach* : Roy Kinnear tells two of Gumpy stories ; 12.10 pm *Stepping Stones* : easy learning for young viewers ; 12.30 *The Sullivans* : serial about an Australian family.

1.00 *News*.

1.20 *Thames News*, 6.00 *Thames News*, 6.25 *Special interest* : news from Myasthenia Gravis, the disease that affects the muscles.

1.35 *Film* : *Plane Sits* (1971). Part of the popular television series about Fenn Street School, retaining most of the original stars including John Alderton, Deryck Guyler, Joan Sanderson and Eric Chitty. Goodish entertainment at the undemanding level.

1.50 *After Noon Plus* : Brightening the boring life of London, including South Kensington Underground station. Also, the life and times of Sir Freddie Laker, the cheap air fares pioneer.

2.35 *Racing from Newmarket* : We see the 2.30 Crown Plus Two Apprentice Championship, the 3.00 Ladies' Gold Cup, Sprint Handicap and the 3.30 Ladbrokes Neil Gower Stakes.

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Now the Spirit speaks with

a powerful voice. The spirit

some still depart from the faith

giving heed to seducing spirits;

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BIRTHS

BODIKIAN—On April 13th, at Hove, East Sussex, a baby boy, Christopher, to Muriel and Reuben Bajaj. Tel: 0322 340000.

JUGNOT—Claudia Sophie,

Cambridge, April 13th, at

Middlesex Hospital, London, to

John and

John.

CHRISTIE—On April 13th, at Ruth

Preston, Lancs, to

John Alexander

Elliott, and William

John.

PETTS—On April 14th, at Thorpe

Leigh, Hants, to

John and

John.

MURRAY—On April 15th, at Ruth

Preston, Lancs, to

John and

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BIRCH—On April 15th, at Ruth

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